September 2007 Rs.10/- 80 Pages

GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

Festival... ...Fun!

PARLE
Ram and Shyam
Jungle Safari
MMM...POPPINS!
RAM AND SHYAM ARE ON A JUNGLE SAFARI
SHYAM, LOOK! A TIGER!
AWESOME! GIVE ME THE BINOCULARS
OH MY GOD, IT'S A HUNTER
LET ME SEE!
SHYAM WE HAVE TO SAVE THAT TIGER
WE KNOW WHAT TO DO!
EATING GREEN POPPINS THEY RECITE THE MAGIC RHYME
OUR TIGER FRIEND WILL NO LONGER BE SEEN
WHEN POPPINS CHANGES HIS COLOR FROM YELLOW TO GREEN
THE TIGER BLENDS WITH THE COLOUR OF THE FOREST
DRAT, WHERE HAS THE TIGER GONE?
RAM, WE HAVE TO NAB THIS HUNTER BEFORE HE FINDS ANOTHER TIGER
SHYAM... LOOK! A POLICE JEEP. BUT HOW DO WE GET THEIR ATTENTION?
RELAX, WHAT ARE OUR POPPINS FOR
AS THEY EAT A YELLOW POPPINS THEY CHANT THE MAGIC RHYME
A LESSON MUST BE TAUGHT TO THIS EVIL FELLOW
LOOK THE HUNTER FELL FOR IT
POPPINS WILL TURN THE POLICE JEEP YELLOW
AS RAM AND SHYAM HAD PLANNED, THE POLICE COME AND ARREST THE CRUEL HUNTER
GOOD WORK, BOYS. YOU HAVE SAVED A PRECIOUS TIGER. I AM PROUD OF YOU
THANK POPPINS, ITS MAGIC COLOURS NEVER LET US DOWN
PARLE POPPINS
GOLI RAINBOW CANDY

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The drawing featured on top of each page in this issue is by

V.THENKANI,

Std.VII, St. Joseph of Cluny MHSS, Neyveli, Tamilnadu

Competition Results

To School , To School!

-Prize winners on pg 28.

Gogo`s Grid -12

Winners list on pg 26

SEPTEMBER 2007
Vol.XX, No.3

KALKI GROUP
HOUSE of QUALITY

GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

Of all created things the loveliest
And most divine are children
-William Canton

KALKI GROUP
HOUSE of QUALITY

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M.Mohan
S.Karthikeyan

telephones :
2225 1522,
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fax :
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e-mails :
editorial :
gokulam@kalkiweekly.com
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THE Magazine for Children

SIXTY YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Dear Readers,

All of us celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of Independence with great joy. National flags were hoisted, sweets were distributed and the holiday was thoroughly enjoyed.

But what does freedom mean to us? The father of the nation taught us that freedom is always linked to responsibility. That is why the second letter 'R' follows 'F' for freedom. We can easily give names to all the other letters too in 'Freedom'. E for ethics; E for education; D for democracy; O for opposition and M for moderation.

Most important of these words are responsibility, education and moderation. Freedom should always be enjoyed with a sense of responsibility. We have the freedom of thought and expression but we should also respect the opposite view point, though we may not agree with it. Opposition should always be linked to moderation. The right to oppose is inherent in democracy. But one should not become violent while opposing. Throwing a book at Taslima Nasrin or setting fire to the offices of the daily newspaper Dinakaran is totally wrong. Such intolerance is not democracy.

The right to education should top the list. For, a sound, proper education takes care of all the other requirements of freedom and makes us fit for democracy. But sadly this is where India still lags behind. Let us hope for better days ahead.

- Editor

Films

Why Waste Lakhs and Crores?

Nowadays crores of rupees are being wasted on films like Dhoom2, Kabhi Alwidha Naa Kahena, Sivaji, Rock and Roll etc... Instead why can't the money be used for saving the earth or by giving it to those who need it for treatment, and so on. I feel that there are many people who do not have what we have. Films use up a lot of electricity and water too. You must be knowing that now there are people who do not get water for even ten to twelve days. So why waste lakhs and crores?

- Ketaki M.Godse,
Std.IV,
Parachute Regiment School,
Bengalooru

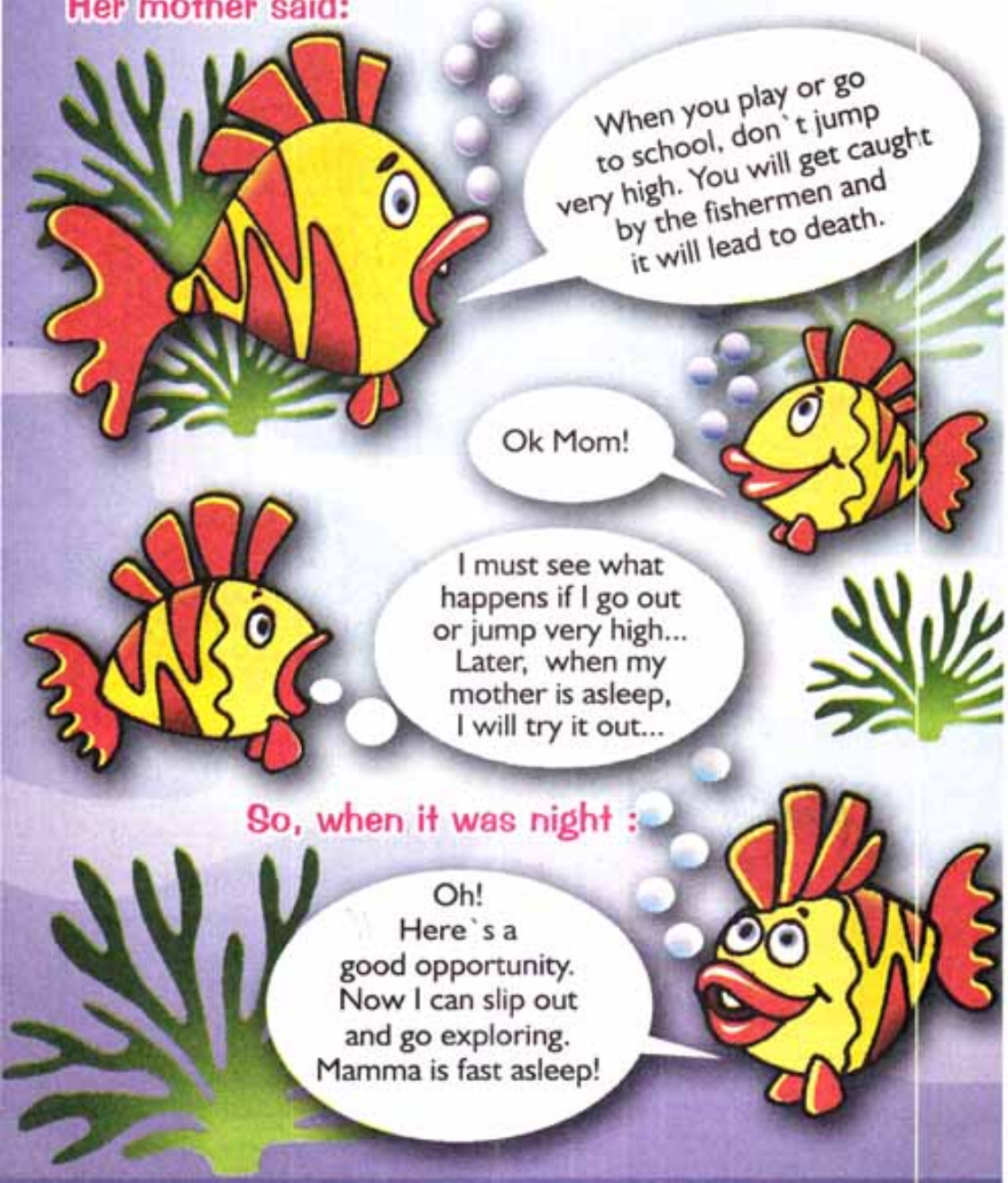
BIRTHDAY BASH

September 19th is Shreyaa's Birthday!

Dear Shreyaa,
Wish you a very Happy Birthday.
with love from
parents, brothers and sister Shivani

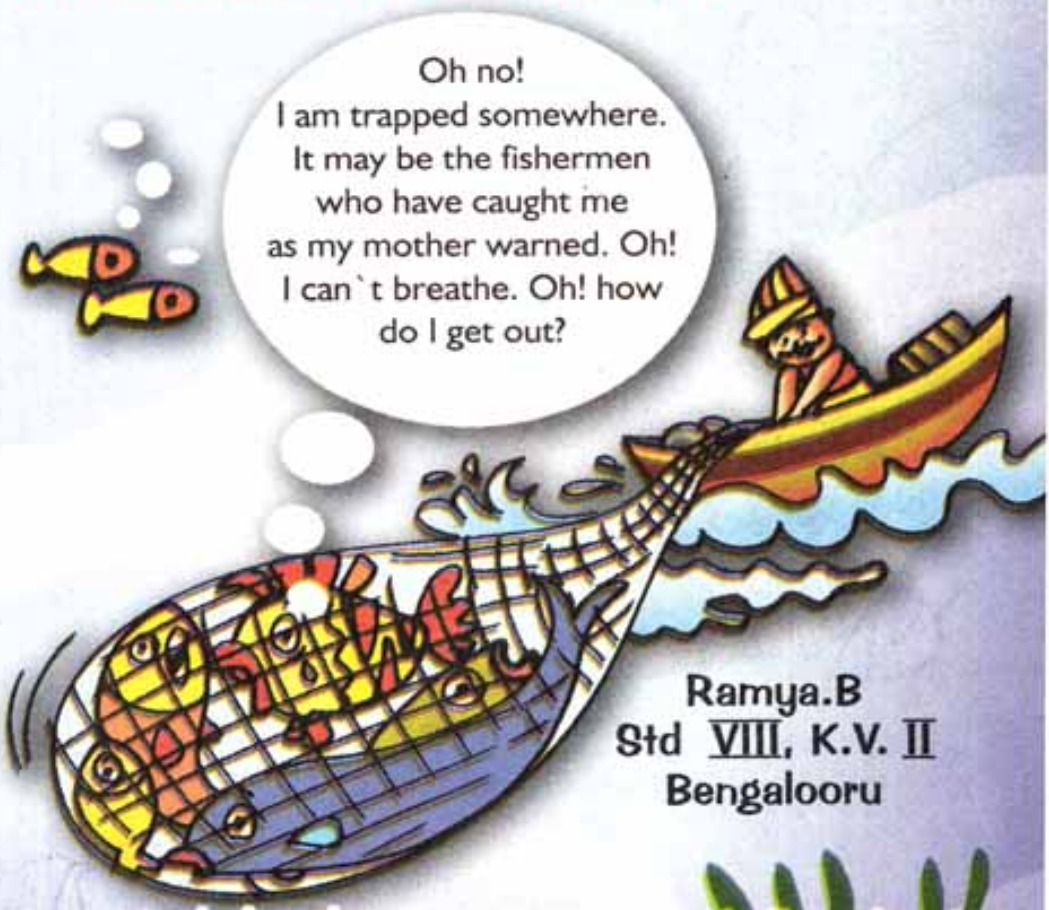
Kalyani was a tiny fish.She was two months old. She was very happy to have slipped into the new world. She started going to school. She had many good friends with whom she spent most of her time. She played all day long. She was very happy.

Her mother said:



KALYANI

At the sametime, the fishermen set out on their boat. Kalyani leaped out of the seabed again and again...and during the last attempt she was caught in their net!



Ramya.B
Std VIII, K.V. II
Bengalooru

She Wriggled and wriggled and at last slipped out from the net. She went back home, told her mother everything and promised she would not do such things thereafter.

The HP CRAZE - CELEBRATE IT!

H.P. Craze has increased the vocabulary and reading skills of kids all over the world. But readers must realise that it is just a fictional story. If they do, 'Harry Potter Craze' will be healthy!

- R.S. Madhumitha, Std.X, Anna Adarsh School, Chennai

Are all the fairy tales and stories like Gulliver's Travels, King Arthur, Alice in Wonderland etc.. unhealthy reading? How could HP craze be so? It will remain the best thriller for ever!

- Pooja S.Bhat, Std.XI, Jyothi Nivas, Bengalooru

The long wait for the seventh book increased the excitement. Giving an enthusiastic, warm and great welcome to the world's greatest and youngest hero - Harry Potter, cannot be called craze!

- L.Sivaraman, Std.IX, Smt. Durgadevi Choudary Vivekananda Vidhyalaya, Chennai

Surely yes. It is healthy. Let us take some aspects of the novel. Dementors : To drive it away, we must think of something happy and use the spell with de-

termination. In real life, the Dementors are our failures. We must meet then with determination and the thought "Success is always ours. It is just a step away."

- B.Sakthi Sangeetha Devi, Std.X, Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Chennai

The craze promotes the beneficial habit of reading. If I can probably think of one harmful effect, it would be just that the kids would go without sleep for a night and that can be compensated!

- Akash Nair, Std.X, St. Joseph's Boys H.S., Pune

Though this craze is considered unhealthy by some, in my opinion it is desirable just so the mind would keep up its exercise in the form of imagination. And we all know, a healthy mind is needed for a healthy body!

- Manisha M.Sahoo, Std.XI, Narayana IIT Academy, Visakhapatnam

Reading is always healthy and empowering. Harry Potter books

Unhealthy!

Reading Harry Potter books for fun is good. But imitating the characters and memorizing spells are foolish!

- S.Sharada, Std.VII, DTEA S.S.S., New Delhi; G.Sailakshmi, Std.IX, Sri Sarada MHSS, Ariyakulam

Queuing up in front of book stores for the whole night before the release of a Harry Potter book isn't obviously healthy!

- Abhishek Chatterjee, Std.X, DAV Public School, Bhubaneswar

Craze for anything in itself is not good, be it Harry Potter or anything else. Because of excessive interest in the Harry Potter books, children end up reading for too many hours which is harmful for their eyesight and often is the main cause of headaches. They also pressurize their parents to buy the expensive books, which they might not be able to afford.

- Utsav Kumar, Std.VIII, Dewan Public School, Meerut, U.P.; Vineeth Menon, Std.IX, Sree Narayana Vidyapeetam Public School, Ernakulam; K.Madhavi, Std.VIII, Prarthana School, Bengalooru

Some people even forget to eat or sleep when they have a Harry Potter book in their hand. It will be better if youngsters show the same interest in reading their school lessons.

- K.Roshini, Std.IX, DAV Girls School, Chennai; V.Ramya, Std.XII, PSBBSS School, Chennai; Gowtham, Std.X, RMH School, Hyderabad

Question for this month

Was it fair of Kapil Dev to start the Indian Cricket League?

Send us your views by 11.09.2007. Each published entry will receive a prize of Rs. 25/-. Remember to include details of your age, class, school and residential address. Those of you who are non - residents of India should send us a local (Indian) address too. You can send entries by post or by e.mail (gokulam@kalkiweekly.com)

not only increased the crazyness of hundreds of already - crazy book readers, but also converted many non-readers into readers! They are reading not only H.P. books, but are also in constant search of other good books. Leave alone reading, it has even inspired young minds to write.

- Shobha Rani Mahapatra, Std.VIII, Buxi Jagabandhu EMS, Bhubaneswar

- Sushma S.Kini, Std.X, Milagres E.M.H.S., Kallianpur, Udipi

Even teachers in many schools, recommend Harry Potter books to their students. How can the HP craze be unhealthy!

- Kiran Nair, Std.VII, Walsingham House School, Mumbai

The pleasant world of Hogwarts is worth a paradise read for a booklover. Also, it has inculcated a cherishable love for novels in young minds which would last forever.

- M.Sneha, Std.XI, Christ Junior College, Bengalooru

The HP craze has made couch potato TV addicts develop the reading habit.

- Tanya, Std.X, Dewan Public School, Meerut; M.Sridevi, Std.X, Alagappa MSSS, Chennai; Satya Nair, Std.XII, SIES, Mumbai; N.Sarasija, Std.VII, PSBBSSS, Chennai; P.Sushma, Std.X, Dolphin Public School, Madurai

Harry Potter is an ideal for all. We learn the values of friendship courage, skill and the power to take right decisions from Potter books. They make children realize their duties and fight for justice.

- Ipsit Bibhudarshi, Std.XI, St. Paul's School, Sundergarh, Orissa; S.Uthra, Std.XII, Velankannai MHSS, Chennai

Where are the Sparrows?

Sparrows are one of the cutest birds I have ever seen in my life. They are small - hardly 10 - 17 cms long.

Four years ago I used to see many of these species around my building, but now-a-days I can hardly spot one. What is it that has caused their numbers to dwindle? I tried to find the answer to this question. One possible reason could be indiscriminate cutting of trees. But, this should also decrease the numbers of crows and pigeons, which has not happened. So, this doesn't seem the reason that's making their population diminish.

This has happened too fast for any one of us to even notice that it is happening. Even I didn't notice until my mother highlighted this phenomenon.

So, friends, through Gokulam I would like to highlight the plight of these small helpless birds. The only apparent reason for the sparrow's disappearance seems to be the lack of trees. We can only plant more trees and the rest lies in mother Nature's hands. So plant more trees and protect the existing ones.

- G.Anveshkumar,
Std.X,
Kendriya Vidyalaya Bhandup,
Mumbai

As is the practice every year, this year too our school hosted Kalpa Kosha, the two day inter-school culturals on 5th and 6th of July. 'Kalpa' means wish fulfilment and 'Kosha' means treasury. Students of Std.XI and XII from six schools from Chennai participated.

Many leading organisations came forward to sponsor the events which were held both on-stage and off-stage. Stalls were put up in classrooms to serve refreshments to the participants. Eminent personalities like playback singers Mahathy and Krish, VJ Craig, Paloma

Birthday Bash

Master Shibin Babu celebrates his thirteenth birthday on 11 September at Kerala.

Happy birthday to my dearest Shibin.

Papa, Mummy and Shiji Didi Delhi Cantt (New Delhi)

KALPA KOSHA-2007

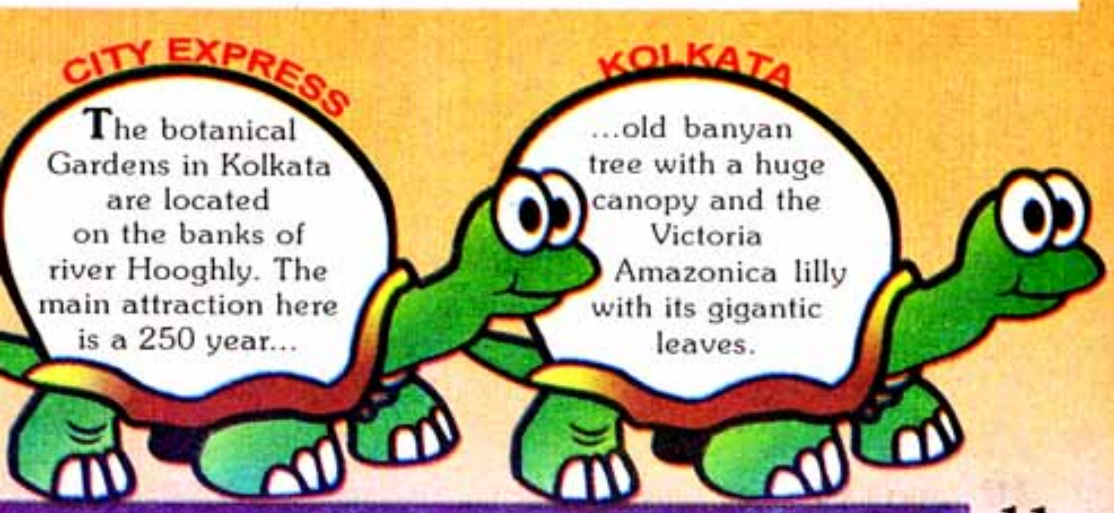
and VJ Karry from S.S. music, actors Bosky and Satish and Radhamohan the director of the Tamil film 'Mozhi', were guests of honour.

The on-stage events included S.O.S. Shipwreck (arguing on a given topic), Commentary, Dance Show and Trail Act in which a scene from a movie is played and the participants have to act in a serious or jovial manner the same scene. Off stage events included 'Face-off' (face painting), 'Fill-the-Grill' (baking), Automobile Designing and 'Eureka' (quiz)

All the participants enjoyed the two day festival and so did we, the organisers. The overall championship trophy was lifted by P.S.Senior Secondary School, Mylapore, Chennai amidst a lot of clapping, cheering (and jeering!)

I do hope this practice continues over the years to come and provides students a breather from stress-filled academics.

- G.Haripriya, Std.XI,
Sir Sivaswamy Kalalaya
S.S.S., Mylapore



Tic-tac-toe is a game of concentration. It is a very enticing game. But it should be played only in free time since it is addictive. Now let me tell you how to play tic-tac-toe.

1. This game can be played only by two players at a time. There are

I. Divide this grid into four equal parts. Every part must have the number 1, 2 and 3.

		1	1	1	
		2	2	3	3
	1		2		
				2	
3	3				

II. CAPITAL QUIZ

Find the five countries in the grid by matching them with their capitals given below :

1) ALGIERS
2) VIENNA
3) YEREVAN
4) WASHINGTON DC
5) TRANA

1	A						A
1	A						A
1	A						A
1	A						A
1	A						A

- A.Anees Fathima, Std.X,
SAB MHSS, Uthamapalayam

III. A SPICY QUIZ

a) This tree bark is used in cooking .....

b) These unopened buds give us a nail - like spice .....

two signs. One is the X and the other is the O. To play you should choose one of the signs.

2. As you start to play, you make a board. A kind of board like this #. You can also draw it.

3. As the game starts you should draw a sign in the box of your choice. The next player should then draw his sign in another box. The player who draws three signs vertically, diagonally or horizontally wins the game. The players should try to pre-empt each others moves!

Tic-tac-toe also comes in some game CD's. There you will challenge the computer.

X	X	Ø
X	Ø	X
Ø	X	X

O has won!

- Vishnu Raghuraman, Std.III, DPS, Gurgaon, Haryana

Tic - Tac - Toe!

c) The seeds of this spice are used in pulao and kheer.

d) The pods of this plant give us a flavour for ice-cream.

e) This berry grows on a vine and is dried and ground or powdered for cooking.

- D.Vishal, Std.VIII, GPTS School, Bengalooru

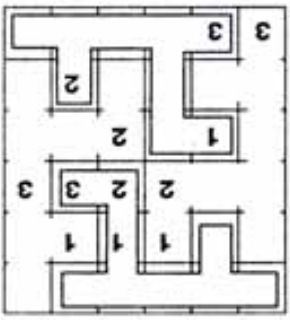
IV. MAGIC IN 37 AND 9

37 x 3 = 111
37 x 6 = 222
37 x 9 = 333
37 x 12 = 444
37 x 15 = 555
37 x 18 = 666
37 x 21 = 777
37 x 24 = 888
37 x 27 = 999

- R.Navesh Babu, Std.XI, Carmel Matric Hr. Sec. School, Erode

ANSWERS :

I.



II. CAPITAL QUIZ

1. Algeria 2. Austria 3. Armenia 4. America 5. Albania

III. A SPICY QUIZ

a) Cinammon b) Clove c) Cardamom d) Vanilla e) Pepper

GRANDMA WORM

How to become a ?

Dear Grandma,

I love watching movies and tennis matches on TV. But my study time will be reduced and I will get less marks. What should I do?

- Deekshan Chandra, Mangalore

Dear Deekshan,

There is nothing wrong in watching movies or tennis matches on TV. It is quite natural. But you must have the will power to be selective. Don't watch all and sundry tennis matches. But don't miss out on Wimbledon - semi finals and finals. Be on the look out for such very important fixtures. Watch only the best movies recommended for children and reject the run of the mill movies. You will have plenty of time for studies.

★ ★ ★

My parents and teachers say that my drawing and physical education marks are poor and because of this my total percentage is less and my rank gets affected. Please help me.

- Saniya Ashaq Alji

Dear Saniya,

Whether it is drawing or games it is only practise which can help you to better yourself. You must learn the correct methods of practise. Your physical instructor or drawing master can guide you in this aspect. Once you start practising with zeal and determination you'll surely improve. So, don't give up! After all, every body needs good exercise (games) as well as relaxation (drawing or painting).

★ ★ ★

Zoologist?

My aim is to become a zoologist. What should I do after plus two exams?

- Surajkumar Rout, Bhubaneswar

Dear Suraj,

You can study B.Sc. zoology and learn all about animals. You can then try to get a job in a zoo, national park or sanctuary for animals and birds. Better still, you can join a veterinary college and learn all about diseases affecting animals and their cure. As a veterinarian you can start private practise for pets, join a dairy farm or opt for government service. Wish you a bright future! Good luck.

My mother says not to talk while eating. How far is this correct?

- Kesav Reddy, Ganjam

Dear Kesav,

To a certain extent your mom is correct. Too much of conversation at meal time will direct your attention from the food you are eating and this is not good. You must relish the food while eating. Enjoy its taste while munching and then swallow it. A little bit of light hearted banter will relax your mind and divert it from serious problems you face. This will make you more and more interested in the food you eat and will help digestion. P.S. : Don't forget to compliment your mom on her expertise in cooking!

Love,
Grandmaworm

• Unpredictable

Lalu, the Unpredictable!

Judgements have been given in the Mumbai blast case and the Coimbatore blast case. Many have been found guilty and sentenced by the two special courts. Severe punishments were awarded but the most sensational of all was the six years rigorous imprisonment given to Sanjay Dutt. The film star while languishing in jail right now, has appealed to the supreme court through his lawyers.

• In jail

★ ★ ★

The Indo-U.S. Nuclear co-operation agreement has come in for a lot of criticism both from allies of the ruling U.P.A. as well as from the opposition. N.D.A. The Communists and B.J.P. object to the fact that the U.S., as per the agreement, will have a control over our right to produce and test nuclear weapons. If at any time we decide to test an atom bomb or indulge in research leading to the same, we will have to return to the US all the nuclear facilities supplied by them including raw material!

• In office

★ ★ ★

Ansari has been elected Vice-President, following Pratibha Patil's swearing in as President of India. Both were nominees of the ruling U.P.A. The opposition candidates lost in the elections to these high offices. This was on expected lines. However, the spirit of democracy has won.

★ ★ ★

Floods in Bihar and Assam followed floods in Andhra, Maharashtra and Karnataka. Bihar has been the worst affected. In a single incident, eighty persons died when a boat capsized in river Ganga.

★ ★ ★

Lalu Prasad, the unpredictable insisted that the helicopter he was travelling, land in the middle of a highway, and the pilot had to oblige! This was during his ariel survey of the floods in Bihar! No doubt it is wrong, but Lalu is Lalu and no one need be surprised if he gets away with it!

Poha for Health!

Ingredients :

Aval (Poha) - 200 grams
Potato - 50 grams
Carrot - 50 grams
Beans - 50 grams
Green Peas - 50 grams
Big Onion (chopped) - 1
Green Chilli - 4
Turmeric powder - a pinch
Mustard seeds - a teaspoon
Salt - as required

Method :

Cut the potato, carrot, beans and chilli into small pieces. Boil the green peas and keep it separately.

Heat a pan and put 2 spoons of oil, add the mustard seeds, and allow to splutter. Add turmeric powder, all the above vegetables except peas, and stir it. Close the pan and allow it to cook lightly. (Do not pour water). Add a pinch of salt.

In the meanwhile take the aval (poha), wash it clean and drain through a sieve. After the water passes through, add the aval (poha), boiled green peas, with the vegetables and salt. Toss all together and close the lid. Leave on low flame for 2 to 3 minutes. Now, add coriander leaves and serve. This delicious poha is good for health. It can be given to children and old people too.

- P.Sushma, Std.IX,
S.D.H. Jain Vidhyalaya,
Madurai

Pavithra Srinivasan

SERIAL - CHAPTER 4

SHATTERED HOPES

Shanmugam stood in the cricket field, intensely nervous.

His team – the Straight Arrows - had taken position around the ground. They had lost the toss; Apurva's team – the Shooting Stars - was batting first. That was not a good sign. The ground was dry and lacking moisture, yielding the best conditions for batsmen. Apurva's team had seen it at once, and made the right decision.

Shanmugam was both a bowler and fielder. He was nimble on his feet, and had a good eye for the ball. He wasn't a brilliant bowler by any means, but his record was not bad – besides, they didn't have too many choices. He would soon have to put his talents to good use. One of the two opening batsmen was Apurva.

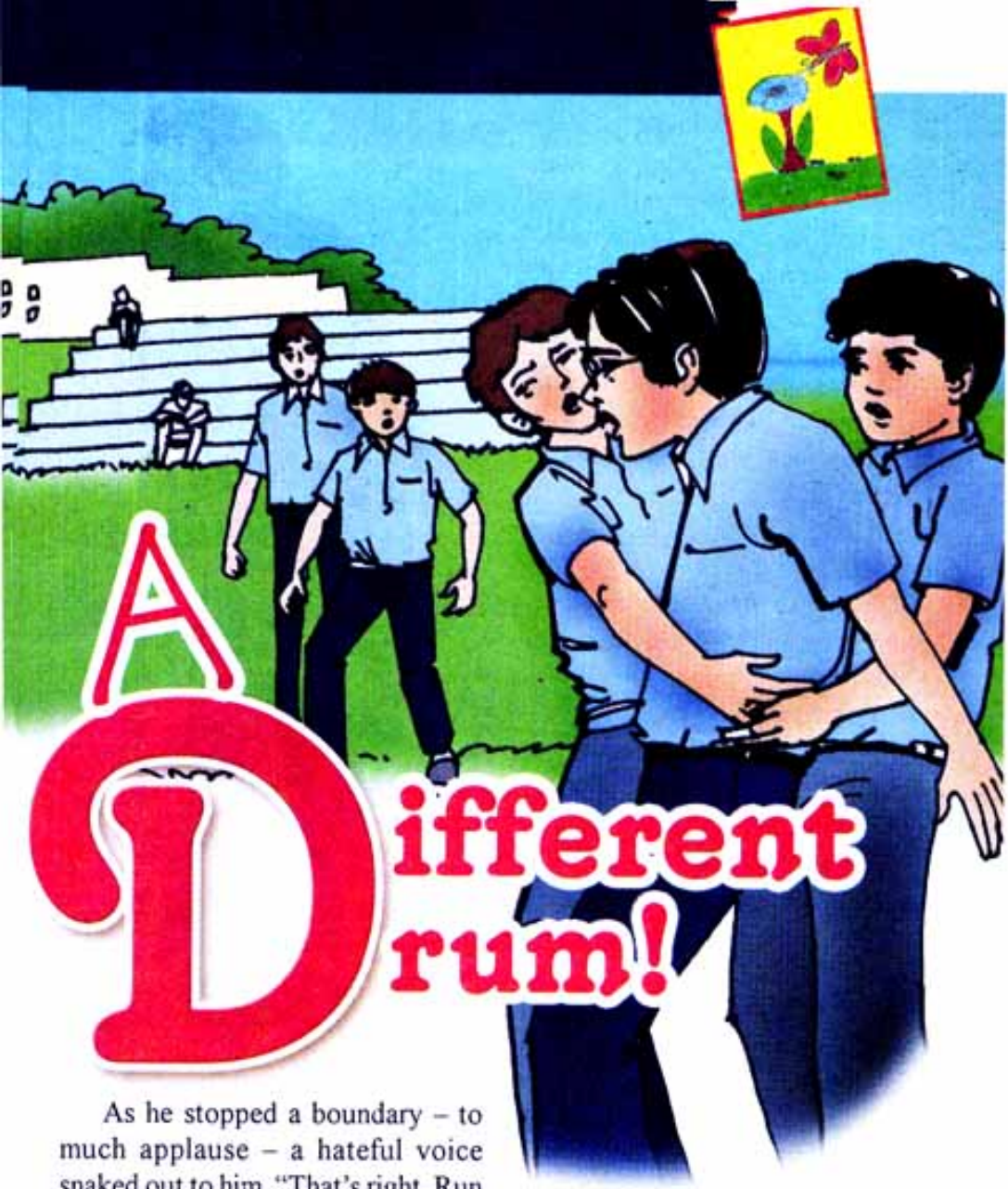
Shanmugam stood at Silly Point, which meant that he could observe Apurva better than almost anyone else in the field, except, perhaps the wicketkeeper. He watched as Apurva strode confidently to the pitch. As always, he smirked, assured of his success. Both their schools had turned out to watch the match, and a loud cheer went up from one side, as Apurva waved his bat in the air.

Lalithaa

He tapped the pitch with it expertly. Then he turned to Shanmugam, who stood ready.

"Little rat's trying to field, huh?" he smirked loudly. The other batsman sniggered. Shanmugam flushed in anger.

The game began. Apurva flourished right from the beginning, swinging his bat stylishly, with little care for the fielders. Shanmugam fielded his best, running here and there, scrambling around Silly Point – but every time he tried desperately to stop the ball, he earned scornful sniggers.



A Different Drum!

As he stopped a boundary – to much applause – a hateful voice snaked out to him. "That's right. Run where I tell you, idiot!"

Something inside Shanmugam snapped. He stood up, ball in hand … and flew at Apurva's throat.

The two rolled about on the pitch, wrestling. Pandemonium broke; the field erupted in uproar. As spectators gaped openmouthed, Shanmugam's teammates and the umpire rushed towards the grappling pair. Yells and shrieks resounded in the air, as they separated the two. Shanmugam fought like a wildcat, while Apurva stood still between his friends. His eyes flashed with malice – and then he put on an injured expression.

"You see how he attacked me? I

said nothing – but he always does this!" Shanmugam gasped in horror, as uproar broke out again. "I did not! He said –"

But no one listened. Too many people had seen him launch himself at Apurva, and he was marched off the field, scorching tears running down his cheeks. Several spectators booed at him, while his team-mates watched, aghast.

What was worse was not even the blistering words that his coach and teachers delivered to him – it was the looks of betrayal in the eyes of his team-mates. The match had been forfeited; Apurva's team had been declared winners.

"I never thought you'd be capable of this," whispered Girish, a bowler. "You ... you traitor!"

"You're sacked." Mrs Jayaseth had spat at them, the evening before. Her small eyes had glittered in triumph. She knew how hurt Annapoorna would be. "You're finished. Finished!"

Shanmugam sat in the hall, flipping through his history test paper. He had barely managed to pass. His teacher had not been happy. School tomorrow was going to be worse, what with the loss in the cricket field. All his classmates looked at him as though he had

committed murder. He snorted. Well, he had wanted to throttle Apurva ... not really. All he had wanted was for him to shut up those hateful words.

Why did the boy hate him so much? Because Shanmugam was short, dark and skinny? That was no reason to bully him day in and day out.

He felt his spirits sink further. What was he going to do now? He could hear Amma working in the kitchen. Her face looked red and

splotchy. He had seen her wipe her eyes again and again as they came back home in the bus.

His thoughts flew again to his imaginary world of heroes. He pictured them winning a grand victory –

The front door opened with a small click. Appa was back. Shanmugam put down his book with some gladness. Now, at least, Amma would feel better.

A moment later, his hopes were dashed to the ground. Appa looked terrible.

Amma came bustling out of the kitchen, and stopped short. "Oh God, what is it?"

Appa slumped into the chair, throwing down his briefcase. "I've quit my job."

They sat still, all three of them, dumbstruck.

"You ... resigned?" Amma whispered. Her face was pinched and white. "But why? You said that it was Raman who had embezzled the funds ... why did you resign?"

Shanmugam was speechless. Amma already knew that Appa was in trouble? Why hadn't she said anything to him? They usually shared everything.

Appa heaved a great sigh and dropped his head into his hands. "They think I helped Raman steal the company money."

"What?" Amma's voice was a horrified shreik.

"I knew Raman was the culprit ... but I didn't report him. Poor Raman was so helpless – his sick parents needed money for their hospital expenses – he begged me not to tell anyone. He said he would make good the amount. But he never did. The company thinks I'm hand-in-glove with

him. They were going to turn me over to the police ..."

Amma gasped. "Do they know that it wasn't you who stole the money?"

Appa sighed. "I have no proof, but my service record has convinced them a bit. Still, they won't take me back because I didn't turn Raman in."

Shanmugam slipped away from the hall, unwilling to listen anymore. All he knew was that both his parents had lost their jobs. What would they do for expenses? Bills? His school fees?

He sat down at his small desk in his room and groaned, sick with worry. Then his glance fell on the sheets of paper, rustling in the fan's breeze. Idly he scribbled on it with a pen.

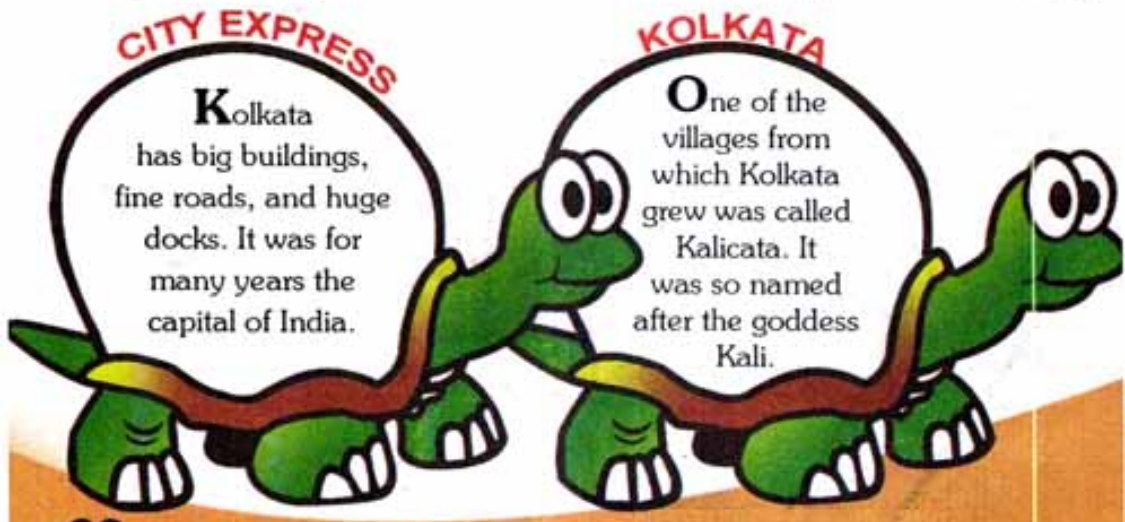
You will know your weapon at the right time . The words floated into his mind. He shook his head. The pressure was unbearable. He had to do something, or he would go mad. He wondered what the heroes of his imagination would do. They wouldn't be this miserable, certainly.

He let his imagination loose, smiling a little. Somewhere in the middle of this, he began to write out on the paper. The words were jerky at first; later, they began to pour out. He was beginning to feel quite nice –

The phone rang in the hall. A moment later, Amma peeped in. "Shanmugam, your school teacher wants to talk to you." She frowned. "What have you done?"

Shanmugam's mouth went dry with fear. He rose from his seat, knees shaking.

(To be continued...)



Pen - sized Scanner!

Today, in this modern world, we use computers everywhere. We also use peripherals such as printer, scanner, web-camera, etc. along with computers. We all know that a scanner is a peripheral used for converting photographs, pictures, documents etc. into digital form files and storing them in the computer. When we hear the word 'scanner', we usually imagine the flat-bed scanner occupying a notable space on a table. But in the year 2006, an American company called 'Planon' invented a new scanner which looks like a writing pen and can be kept in our shirt pocket! This is the smallest scanner invented so far and weighs only 57 grams! It has been named as 'Docu-pen R700' and has found a place in the Guiness book of world records!

How does it work?

This scanner has an in-built battery. It has four green colour LEDs (Light Emitting Diode) and a red colour LED. When we want to scan a document or a picture, we simply need to move this Docu-pen over the surface of the document or picture. The movement should be of correct speed. If the speed is too slow or too high, it is indicated by one of the LEDs. After scanning, the Docu-pen should be connected to the computer through an USB 2.0 interface. When it is connected, the scanned images stored in the scanner are transferred to the computer. At the same time, the battery inside the scanner gets power supply from the computer's power supply and charges itself!

Compiled by :

- S.N.R. Aravindh, Std.IX,
Erode Hindu Kalvi Nilayam
MHSS, Erode

Attention, All GOKULAM Readers and Contributors!

Most of you have been sending us jokes, facts and snippets gathered from the internet or G.K. books. Do show us how original you can be... Here are a few suggestions :

★ Write in about the unique programmes or ceremonies that take place in your school.

★ Collect and send us information about your own town, city, village or state.

★ Interview a local celebrity or achiever and send us a write-up. Make sure to enclose photographs for this.

★ You may contribute to the new City Express column. We began with the capital city and featured Mumbai in August. You will see Kolkata snippets this month. Try to send rare and interesting details about Bengalooru before September 5th.

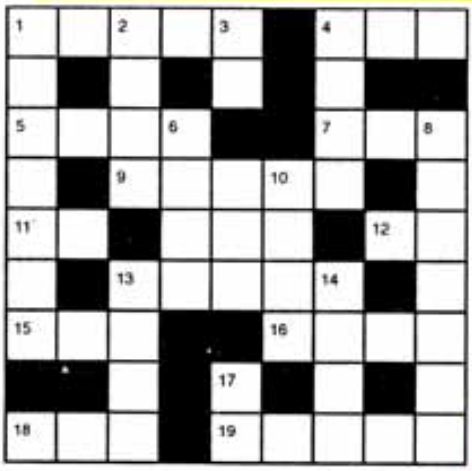
Above all, make sure you put down your

Name
Class
School Name &
Residential Address in

Each and every contribution you send! Remember **N C S R E** and check before you mail or post your contributions.

If you are compiling information remember to mention the source and

NEVER EVER COPY!



Clues

Across :

1. Tolstoy wrote War and ..... (5)

4. Guinness contains a place to stay (3)

5. Change chin and get a measurement (4)

7. A gentle, loving sound

9. People of Holland are called... (5)

11. A conjunction with last letter missing!

12. Also denotes today's booming industry!

13. Smallest particles, it was believed (5)

15. When you are hungry you do this (3)

16. Twice this is caused due to deficiency of Vitamin B (4)

18. Change eat to make it a beverage (3)

19. Opposite of tie (5)

Down :

1. A VIP rate, but definitely not public (7)

2. First four letters of alphabets (4)

3. Indicates former (2)

4. A feeling of irritation on skin (4)

6. A physical one requires ointment and a mental one needs consolation (4)

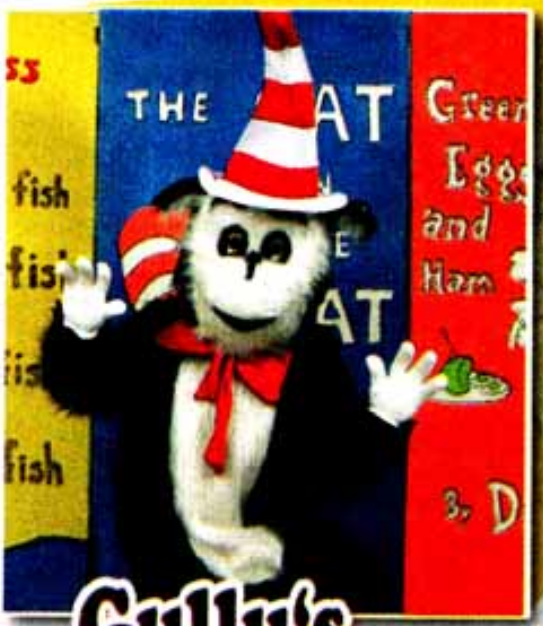
8. Not inside (7)

10. A bald man does not need this (4)

13. Ingredient for chappati (4)

14. Past tense of send (4)

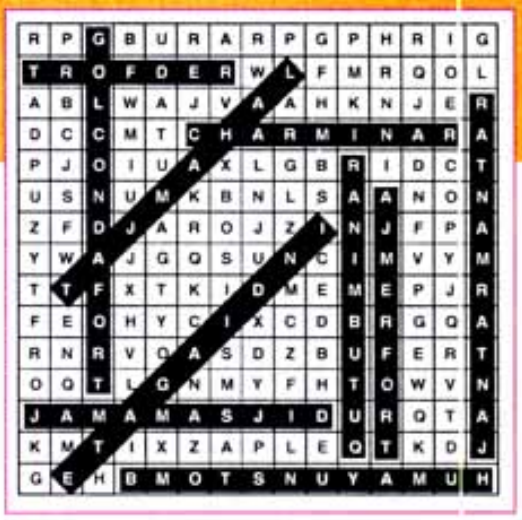
17. Indebted to you in sms language!



Gullu's Crossword - 2

- G.S.S.

Gogo's Grid -12



Congratulations!

Here are the winners of Gogo's Grid -12 (July 2007 issue) and the solutions as well. The results of Gullu's crossword-1 will be published in the October 2007 issue!

1. *S.Ojas, Std.V, Hindu Senior Sec. School, Chennai - 600 042*
2. *R.Pavithra, Std.VI, Vidhya Niketan, Coimbatore*
3. *S.Nayantara, Std.VI, Gulf Indian School, Kuwait*
4. *V.Mahalakshmi, Std.IX, AMC, Bengalooru*
5. *Sabyasachi Senapati, Std.IX, Atomic Energy Central School, Orissa*

Gullu`s Crossword - 2 ENTRY FORM

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... Class .....

School : .....

*Residential Address : .....

.....Pin .....

Signature : .....

* Local address is a must for overseas entries.

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,
47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

• Strictly for school going children • Five lucky winners will get a cash award of Rs.50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. • Entries with completed grid on the reverse accepted on this form only • No xerox copies.

Last Date : 20.09.2007

Roses!

Called the king of flowers, prized by many an emperor, the rose occupies pride of place. English monarchs had roses named after them; the Mughal rulers grew more than 500 varieties in their royal gardens; the Arabs treasured their perfumes and did not reveal the secret manufacturing process for centuries.

The rose is truly one of the most beautiful flowers. A symbol of love, roses come in many colours including various shades of white, pink, lavender, red, orange and yellow. There are even black, blue and green coloured roses.

The rose belongs to one of the largest families of flowering plants. There are over 3400 species of trees, shrubs and herbs in the rose family. The gallica family of roses is one of the oldest known and grown, dating back to 1500s. Most roses are descendants of the gallica family.

The most popular roses today are hybrid roses, which are bred from two different varieties. Other types include the climbing or rambler roses, shrub roses and miniature roses.

Plants of the rose family give us many useful products. Rose petals are used in the preparation of attar and oil too.

(Source : Books)

- A.Pavithraa Devi,
Std.VII, Auxilium Girls HSS,
Tanjavur

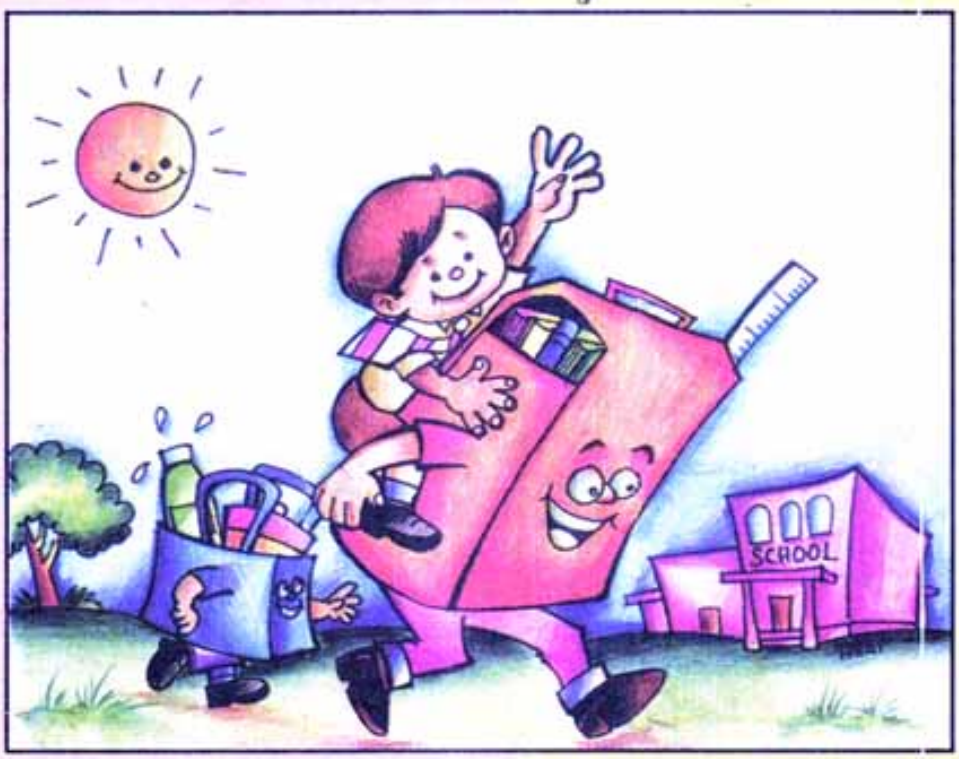
Congrats

Artist Pillai who devised the colouring competition for Gokulam readers (July '07), was stunned by the overwhelming response. Here are the best entries selected by Mr.Pillai:

1st prize Rs.250/-

PREETHI M.SHET,
Std.X, Sri Vidya Mandir High School, Bengalooru

To School, To School!



Winners!

2nd prize Rs.150/-

R.JAISHREE,
Std.X,
St. Francis A.I. G.H.School,
Coimbatore - 45

3rd prize Rs.100/-

V.SRIRAM,
Std.VIII, M.E.S.K.K.
Bengalooru - 560 003

Turn over for consolation prizes

Consolation prizes Rs. 100/- each

V.ATHIRA, Std.III,
K.V., Palakkad, Kerala

N. MAANASA,
Std.IV,
Jnanodaya School,
Bengalooru

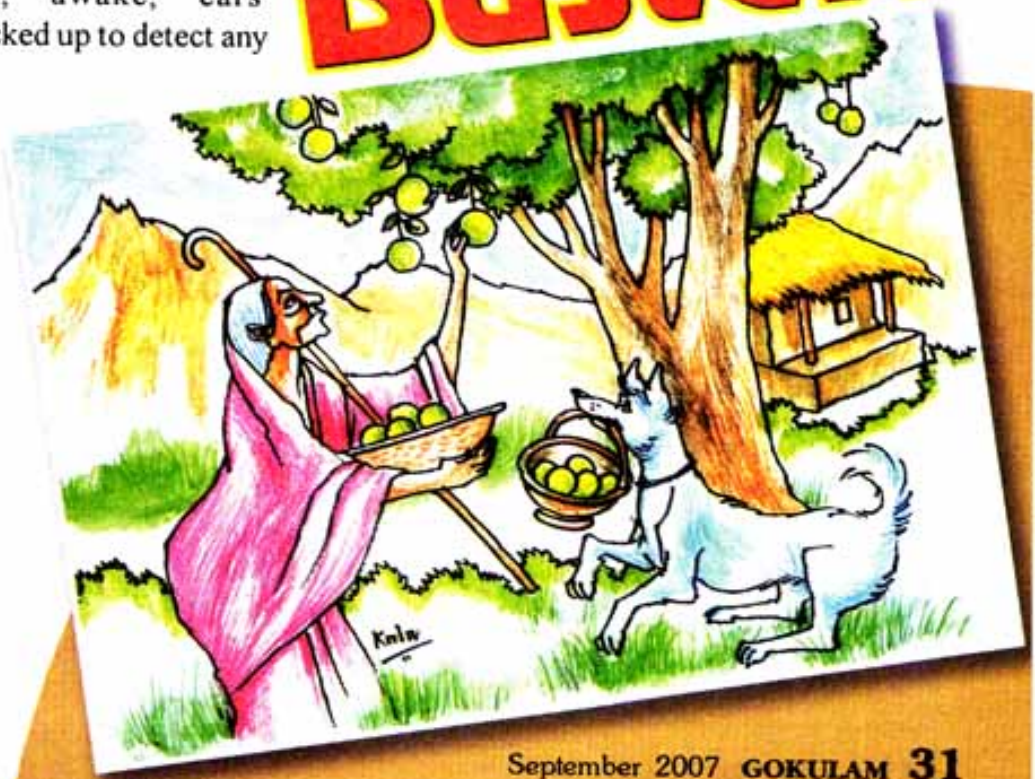
K.SANJANA,
Std.VIII,
St. Joseph's Anglo
Indian Girls Hr. Sec.
School, Trichy

Bravo, Buster!

Once there lived an old woman on the outskirts of a town called Rampur. She had a dog called Buster. It was a very intelligent dog. There was a big orange tree in her courtyard which bore fruits. Everyday, she used to collect 15 - 20 oranges and sell them in the market.

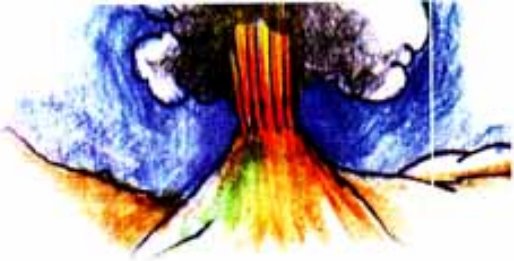
There was a dormant volcano 5 kilometres away from Rampur. The last it erupted was nearly a decade ago, when hundreds were killed. The old lady had witnessed the devastation. Since then, nobody had ever dared to go near the volcano.

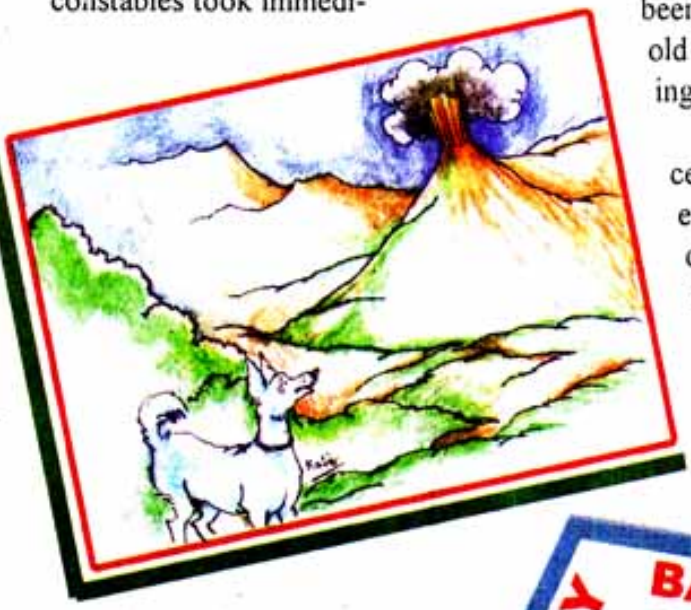
One night, the old woman was sleeping soundly inside the hut. Buster was outside the hut, awake, ears pricked up to detect any activity. Suddenly, the area started getting hotter. Then, something shocking happened. The volcano began to erupt! Buster saw it and started barking loudly, trying to wake up the old woman. When she showed no signs of getting up, Buster gently bit her leg. She immediately woke up startled, and became furious at Buster. However she be-



gan to feel the heat wave. Buster led her outside to show that the volcano had started to erupt. The old woman was shocked and alarmed.

She and Buster immediately went to the police station and told the inspector to warn the residents since a volcanic eruption could destroy the entire town. The inspector and his constables took immediate action. They made announcements through the loudspeaker from the centre of the town, cautioning people to evacuate Rampur. They also made a call to Delhi, asking for immediate assistance.





Within half an hour, rescue helicopters reached the town and most of the people were evacuated to safer places.

The next day, all the newspapers carried headlines of how the old lady and her dog had helped in saving hundreds of lives in Rampur. Although some loss of life occurred, it could have been much more but for the old woman's timely warning.

The old woman received the National Bravery Award from the President of India. Buster too received a special award!

- Varun Adishankar, Std.IX, Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Hyderabad

BIRTHDAY BASH

G.P. Goudham of Kathiravan Matriculation H.S. School celebrates his fourteenth birthday on 31st August. Greetings Goudham!

Wish you a happy birthday and a long & prosperous life. God bless you!

With love,
G.P.Jeya,
G.P. Ushamani
CableR.Sampath Kumar,
G.R.Premsekar

Life and Science!

It was Sunday, September 2nd and Teacher's day was only three days away. Lux, Arun and their friends decided to plan something special for their favourite teacher Miss Raji. The kids gathered in the community park. Once everyone had settled, Arun started, "Let us brainstorm. Each one of us will put forward his or her idea and we will discuss the ideas to come up with a plan."

Anu raised her hand and said, "What does everyone think about the idea of writing a speech or a poem in praise of our teacher?"

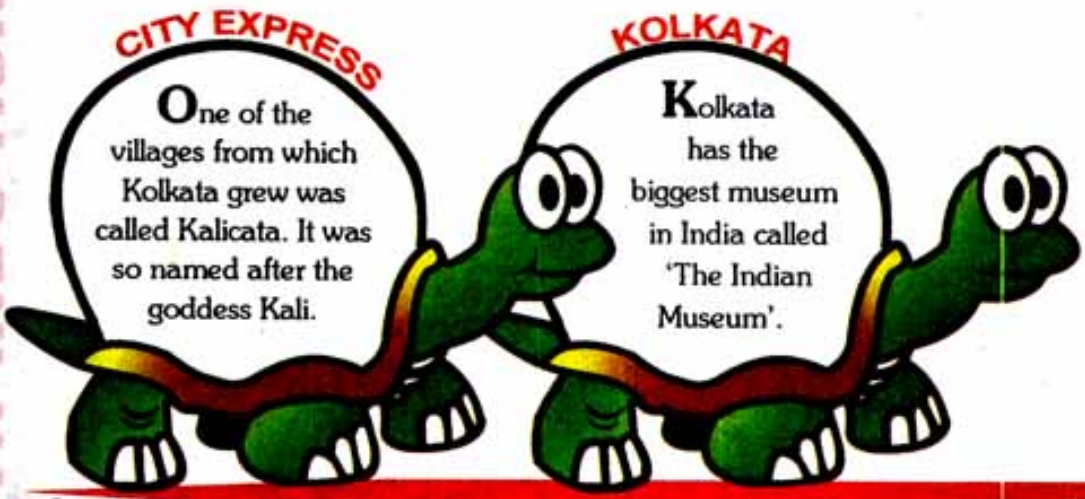
The kids discussed other ideas and finally settled on Anu's idea of writing a paean. Next, they brainstormed on the content of the speech. After lengthy discussions, everyone agreed that Chandan had the best idea when he said, "Since Miss Raji is a science teacher, we should use science terms that have a slightly different

meaning in everyday usage. For example, Miss Raji taught us that a catalyst is a substance that starts or speeds up a chemical reaction. Well, catalyst also means a person who brings about a change. So we could say Miss Raji was the catalyst for a new way of thinking and learning."

Everyone agreed that Miss Raji indeed had taught them to be curious and learn by experimentation rather than by rote. Sruti mused, "Remember the time she asked us to rub turmeric on a piece of paper and pour soap water on it. We were all so thrilled to see the paper turn red. That was a fun way to learn about acids, bases and the litmus test."

Anurag joked, "Miss Raji always makes it enjoyable to learn. Isn't that the litmus test to determine if one is a good teacher?"

"That's good, Anurag," said Lux, "Litmus test does mean a revealing test that depends on one indicator. Okay, let us all take ten minutes to write down a few other words and ideas. Then each person can read out his or her notes. We have learnt from Miss Raji that synthesis is a process that produces complex compounds



by combining simpler elements and compounds. Today, we will synthesize our little ideas to create a grand speech".

At the end of the session, the kids had a great speech that was a little too long. Arun said, "Now we have to condense or shorten our speech". Anu joked "The heat is making the air condense or turn into liquid on my skin and we are all soaking in sweat. Can we go inside now, drink acidic lime juice and then finish the speech?" Everyone laughed and decided to go to Anu's house.

On Teacher's day, the kids invited Miss Raji to the classroom during lunch break and read the condensed speech in chorus. Miss Raji was overwhelmed with joy and pride.

Homework Box!

Dear readers,

How are you planning to let your teachers know that you appreciate them? Try writing a speech using the idea discussed in this story. (Do you know the difference between a poem and a paean?)

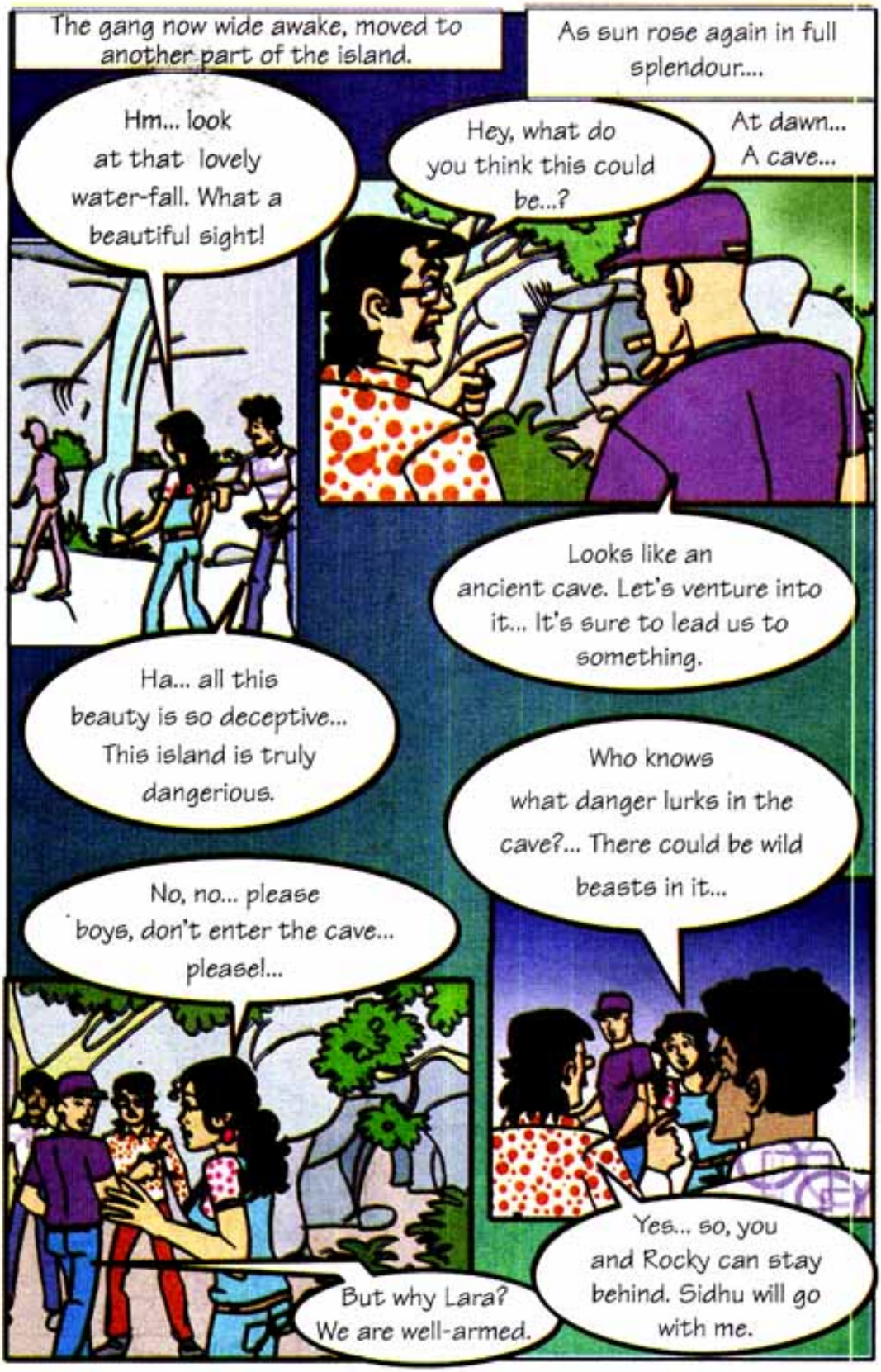
The next time you learn science terms, try to relate them to the words you use in everyday speech. Now that you know what the word synthesis means, can you guess what the term photosynthesis means? (Hint: photo means light). And remember, don't just memorize, but think, question, analyze and experiment. It is more fun and the lessons you learn will stay with you for a long time.

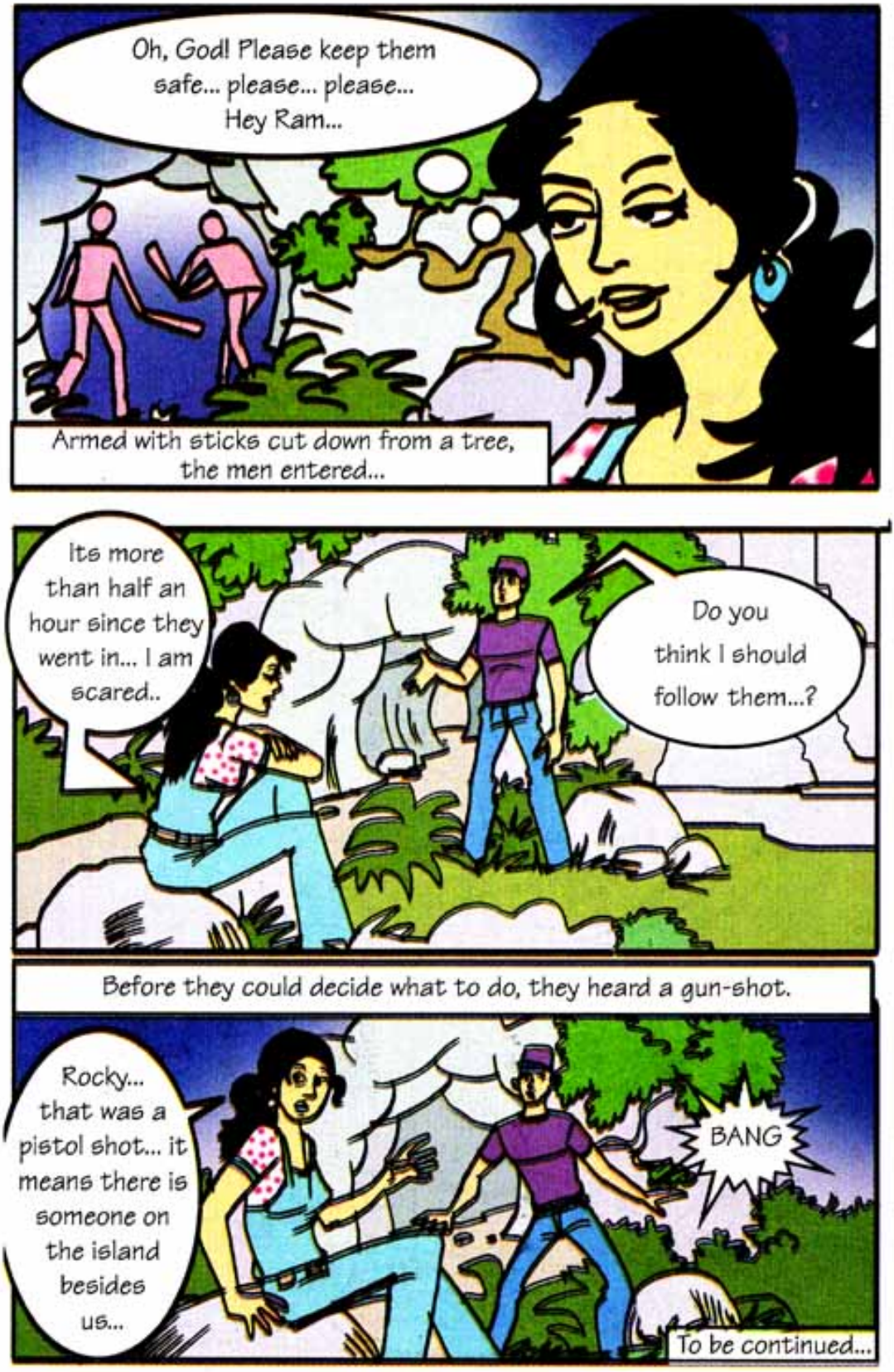
Treasure Ahoy! 3

Story, Picture : **Dharma**

Bhandari who went looking for the 'ghost' was caught unawares!

In the meanwhile... Rocky swiftly pulled out his pistol...
Sorry, Mr. Chimp... but I have no choice!
The creature fell with a roar...
He scared you stiff, didn't he...?
Thank you Rocky... and sorry er.... I called you a scaredy cat...
We must not all sleep at night, but take turns...
This island is proving to be more dangerous than adventurous...


The gang now wide awake, moved to another part of the island.
Hm... look at that lovely water-fall. What a beautiful sight!
As sun rose again in full splendour....
At dawn... A cave...
Hey, what do you think this could be...?
Looks like an ancient cave. Let's venture into it... It's sure to lead us to something.
Ha... all this beauty is so deceptive... This island is truly dangerious.
Who knows what danger lurks in the cave?... There could be wild beasts in it...
No, no... please boys, don't enter the cave... please!...
But why Lara? We are well-armed.
Yes... so, you and Rocky can stay behind. Sidhu will go with me.


Oh, God! Please keep them safe... please... please... Hey Ram...
Armed with sticks cut down from a tree, the men entered...
Its more than half an hour since they went in... I am scared..
Do you think I should follow them...?
Before they could decide what to do, they heard a gun-shot.
Rocky... that was a pistol shot... it means there is someone on the island besides us...
BANG
To be continued...

COMPLETE THE PICTURE

Let`s Go Pl

ces...!

The imagination can travel just about anywhere! You'll see this from Pillai's drawing on this page. Let's see how far your mind and vision can travel with Pillai's... Complete his unfinished drawing. Draw a scene that's mind-boggling and colour it too! Fill out this coupon and send in your entries to Gokulam before 20th September 2007.

The best three entries will win prizes :

First Prize : Rs.250/-
Second Prize : Rs.150/-
Third Prize : Rs.100/-

Name : .....

Age : .....Class .....

School : .....

.....

Residential Address : .....

.....

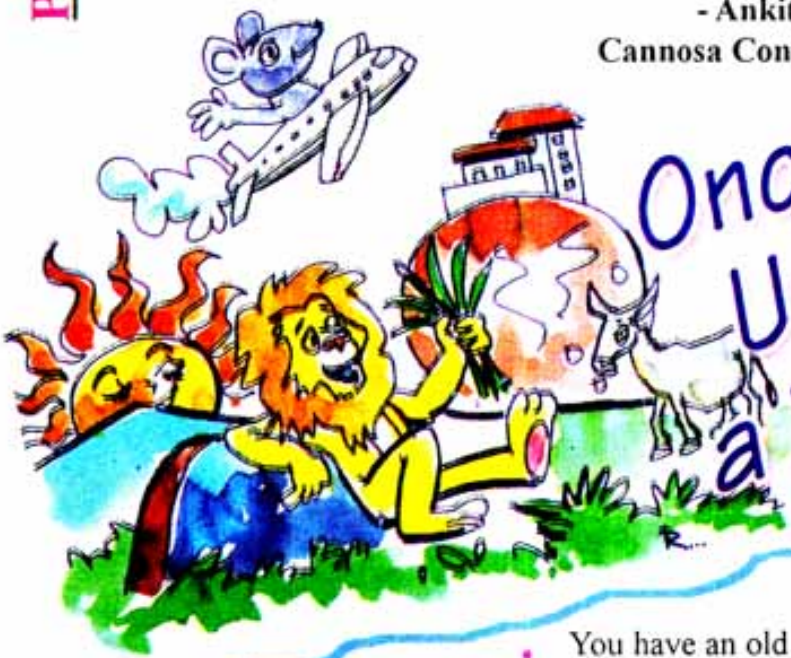
.....

Pin .....

Once Upon a Time...

Once upon a time a lion ate the grass
Once upon a time my house was in mars
Once upon a time the sun rose in the west
Once upon a time the working machine said, "I want rest."
Once upon a time a deer chased the tiger
Once upon a time a pig was the writer
Once upon a time a rat rode a jet
Once upon a time the tiger weaved a net
Once upon a time the donkey was clever
Once upon a time all animals quarrelled for the Kaveri river!

- Ankit Agarwal, Std.IX,
Cannosa Convent High School,
Maharashtra



The Haunted House

You have an old dust bin
With not even a single pin!
You'r windows are always rusted
And they are never dusted!
O!! you are always haunted
I feel so daunted!!

You are always haunted
I feel so daunted!
You have dirty walls
That are for ever tall!
You have a door mat
Often with a cat!

- V.Varsha,
Std.VIII,
BGK
Vidyamandir,
Kolkata

Teacher`s Day!

A day meant for teachers,
Who inculcate in us good features

A day for grand celebration,
Birthday of former
President of the Nation

The day is fifth September,
An important day to remember

Teachers enjoy the day,
To them tributes we pay

It's time to sing an ode,
To those who show us the road.

- R.Vishal Jagannath, Std.VII,
Siva Sivani Public School,
Visakhapatnam

A Good Morning

The sun is shining
The flowers are blooming
The birds are chirping
The wind is blowing

Everyone looks fresh
Singers sing
Dancers dance
Painters paint.

Children are playing
Youngsters are working
Elders are praying
This is a good morning!

- A.Varshni, Std.VIII, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Chennai-83

Time is precious! Apart from all the riches bestowed by God, the most valuable one was, is and will always be time. The secrets of time have always been a mystery to us. Time has forever attracted the curiosity of man. Great thinkers of the world have all tried to experiment with time. Fantasies about time machines have captured our imagination. Wouldn't it be awesome if there existed one such device that would transport us back to all those wonderful moments of our life?

Time, if handled with intelligence and caution can be our best friend. Time waits for no one. It is common knowledge that time lost can never be regained. But, if we walk along with time, life would be one exciting joyride. People often tend to make mistakes when it comes to utilizing their time. Many dreams have remained unfulfilled because people were so absorbed in their dreams that they didn't notice time slipping away. Unless one is aware of time left, he cannot ever attain his goals.

Recall all those times when you were supposed to work hard but you did not because you just wanted to have fun. The result?... Well, may be it was a C on a test or a missed opportunity. Everyone would have gone through such moments and then longed for the lost time to come back. But, what's the use of wailing over spilt milk?

TIME!

For progress of mankind, especially youth, time management is highly essential. Time management is not just drawing up a time-table and pasting it on your room door. If you genuinely want to manage your time better, then you need to plan. How strong is your ambition? The greater your ambition, the more time you will need to work on it. If your daily schedule is properly thought out, your life could be spent smoothly. Believe it or not, most of us spend at least 5 to 6 hours of each day lazing around. But if the same number of hours were valued and used fruitfully, then daily chores could be completed easily.

Each day could be divided into different phases and each phase reserved exclusively for different purposes.

To keep the mind and body healthy and energetic, meditation,

Surya namaskar, physical exercise like cycling, games can be put into practice everyday. This will help us focus on our work better. Entertainment is important to everyone. So, a portion of your time should be used for stretching out those tired muscles. Spending time with family, friends, and your pet or for building up your IQ can be the cherry on top of a fantastic day. But, all play and no work can make Jack a dull boy too. Our goal is to devote the maximum amount of time to work.

We have reached the 21st century. When we reflect on the past, we wonder, what part of our mission has been accomplished. Half of it? A quarter? A little? Or none at all? Time should not go waste. See to it that each second is put to good use. Ask yourself every time, 'am I doing what I'm supposed to do?' Remember, you are the master of your life. Do not land yourself the misfortune of crying over lost time. Think of the time you have now. Finally, don't forget to smile each day because you never should be lonely when time is on your side.

- Anju V.Nambiar,
Std.IX, Ladyhill Victoria Girls High School,
Mangalore

The Secret Underwater World!

"Oh! Please papa, let us go to the lake!" insisted the children, Reena and Rahul. "O...oh! Alright, ALL.... RIGHT!!" Said Mr.Bhasu, irritated. Summer holidays had come around and they pleaded with their parents to take them out. They decided to leave the next day. After they had finished packing, Reena and Rahul ran off to play chess.

The next morning, they started on their journey. Before they left, Mr.Bhasu, asked the watchman to keep a close watch on his house as they had a lot of cash in their vault. Even though, he was a new watchman, Mr.Bhasu trusted him.

After reaching the lakes, they decided to

go for boating. The boatman, Raja, warned them not to put their hands into water as it was infested with pirhanas (a kind of flesh eating fish). Reena had read a lot about them. The next day was fine, as they were going to take some photos of some marine and other land creatures. "So, boring!! Let us do something else" said Rahul. But papa did not agree. So, they went to the lake once again.

But, Reena and Rahul were in for a big surprise!!! They could go

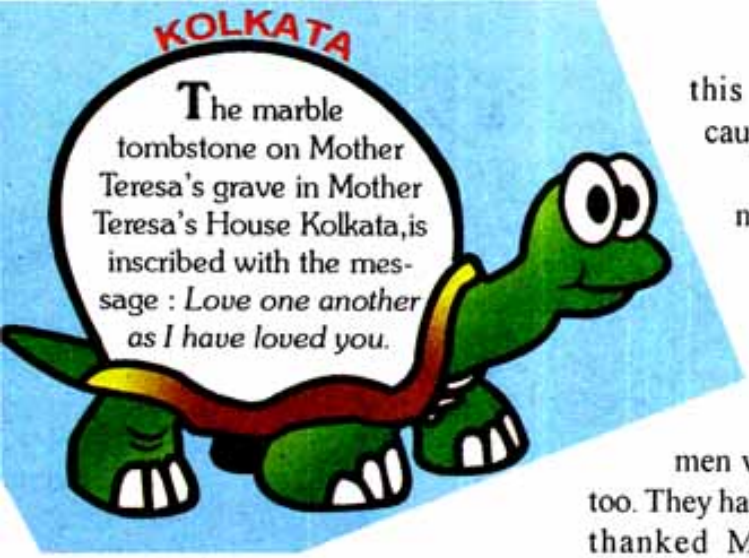
scuba-diving!

Immediately Reena and Rahul put on their diving suits listened to the rules carefully and splashed into the water. Soon they were upto mischief!

They explored the underwater wonders and suddenly came to a halt, when they saw a man entering a secret passageway! They were amazed and quietly followed him. He was not aware that he was being followed. He entered a waterproof chamber. The children followed him before the door closed. Once inside, the man removed his mask (helmet) and to the children's astonishment, they found a small pile of money! They took off their masks too. The man met another man and discussed something but the children could not figure out what they said. Suddenly, the two men saw them and raced towards them.

Reena pulled Rahul by his hand and began to move away.

The man was none other than the



new watchman! The other was none other than boatman Raja!

Rahul put up a fight like a middle sized bear! Whereas, Reena who had learnt martial arts, fought very bravely, using some of the techniques she had learnt. Finally, Reena overpowered both of them and said.

"Rahul, go and get papa and mama and tell them to call for the police."

"You won't get away with this you meddling kid!" said the watchman.

"Stop. Your game is up. We should have thought twice before appointing you. And you, Raja we thought you were a nice man. We were wrong" said Reena.

"Let me off! I did this because, he promised to give me half of his booty and I thought that would help my family. But, I did not know this rascal would get me caught!"

"Have you stolen our money?" asked Reena.

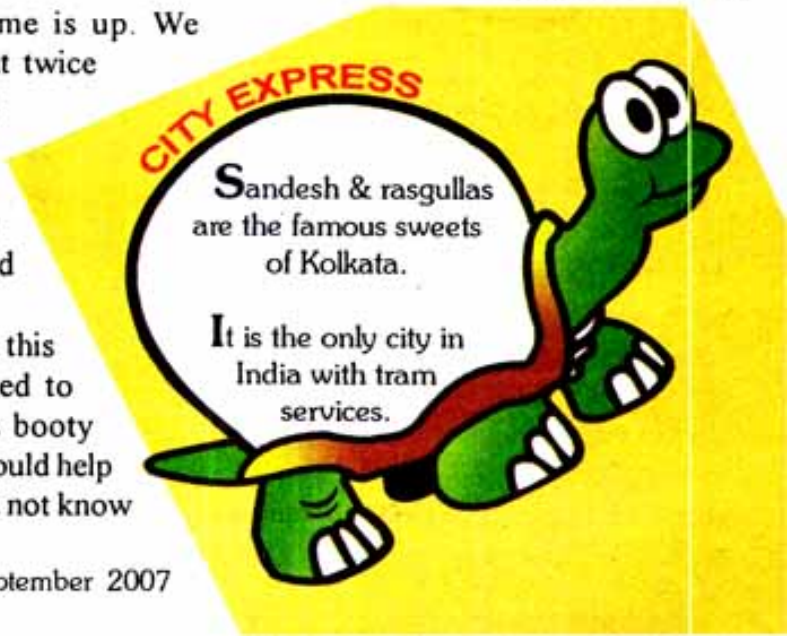
"Yes" they admitted sheepishly.

After some time, Rahul came back with some police men who were in scuba suits too. They hand-cuffed the crooks and thanked Mr.Bhasu, Reena and Rahul. The money was restored to the respective owners and Mr.Bhasu got his money back.

The children were thrilled but at the same time they were a bit scared about what their parents would say.

Bhasu looked at the children with a serious face and asked "What will you let yourself into next time?" Reena and Rahul just shrugged their shoulders and smiled!

- Anirudh Ramesh, Std.VI,
Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Chennai



Teacher : Pappu, how do you spell 'crocodile'?

Akash : K-R-O-K-O-D-A-I-L

Teacher : No, that's wrong

Akash : May be it's wrong, but you asked me how I spell it!

Teacher, Teacher!

Teacher : Pappu, give me a sentence starting with 'I'.

Ajay : I is...

Teacher : No, Pappu. Always say, 'I am.'

Ajay : All right. 'I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.'

- T.M.Shilpa, Std.VIII,
DTEA SSS, New Delhi

Rebecca : Mom what are the two things we can never have for breakfast?

Mother : I don't know.

Rebecca : Lunch and dinner, ofcourse!

- K.Arathi, Std.IX,
St. Ann's High School,
Secunderabad

Name : **Fathima Shanha Rafi**
Age : 12
Address : 4/12, Dewaraja Mawatha, Bothalapitiya Road, Gampola, Sri Lanka
Hobbies : Collecting stamps, coins, reading, playing out door sports and making friends.

Name : **Yogeshwari Honna**
Age : 14

Address : 17-4-358, CMC Colony, Behind New Hero Honda Showroom, Gandhi Gunj, Bidar - 585 403. Karnataka
Hobbies : Reading Harry Potter books, playing chess and listening to music.

Name : **A.Avinash Chinnakkaruppan**
Age : 11
Address : 7/A, 104, Accolade CHS, Hajuri Darga Road, Behind LIC, Thane, Mumbai
Hobbies : Playing cricket, badminton and football, drawing and listening to music.

Name : **Ringu Tirie**
Age : 14
Address : V.K.V. Nivedita Vihar, Sijosa East Kaming, Arunachal Pradesh - 790103
Hobbies : Reading Harry Potter books, painting, listening to music, drawing, dancing, collecting stamps.

Name : **G.Pravin Kumar**
Age : 10
Address : 3, Kailasanathan Street, Muthuttopu, Villupuram - 605 602
Hobbies : Watching T.V., reading books, swimming, Abacus, writing, dancing, singing (classical).

Name : **Chukhu Nyojung**
Age : 14
Address : V.K.V. Nivedita Vihar, Sijosa East Kaming, Arunachal Pradesh - 790103
Hobbies : Playing chess, carrom, badminton, reading novels, comics, watching cartoons.

Name : **P.S.Ashwin**
Age : 12
Address : Aravalli House, Jawahar, Navodaya Vidyalaya, Mudipu, P.O. Kurnadu - 574 153. Bantwal T.Q., South Canara
Hobbies : Listening to music, reading stories, surfing the net, playing computer games, watching T.V. and cycling.

Name : **S.Ramya Bhagirathi**
Age : 10

Buddies from All Over!

Address : 16, Annayappa Garden, New Thippasandra, Bengalooru - 560 075.
Hobbies : Dancing, singing, painting, writing poems and reading and best of all... making friends!

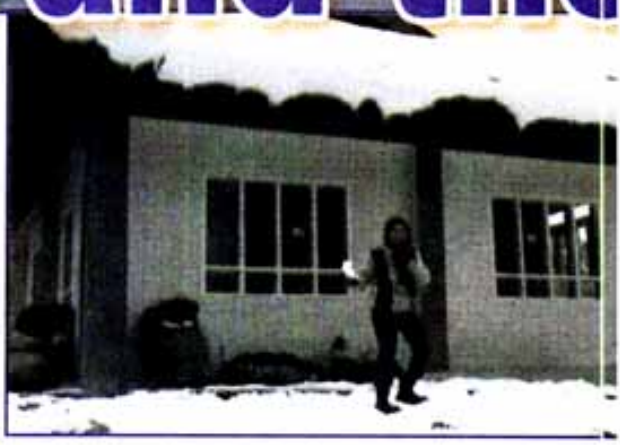
Name : **S.Karthik**
Age : 11
Address : F3, Rani Apartments, Nehru Colony, Nanganallur, Chennai - 600 114.
Hobbies : Reading books and magazines, playing chess, playing with my dog Rittu.

Name : **N.Ramachandran**
Age : 14
Address : 3, Kailasanathan Street, Muthuttopu, Villupuram - 605 602
Hobbies : Playing cricket, dancing, singing (A.R. Rahman songs), travelling.

Name : **S.Dinesh**
Age : 14
Address : 1, Agaram Pet, Muthuttopu, Villupuram - 605 602
Hobbies : Playing cricket, watching T.V., music channel, making friends, surfing the net.

Name : **R.J.Siddarth**
Age : 15
Address : Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Mudipu, Bantwal 79, South Canara, Karnataka - 574 153
Hobbies : Reading English novels, computer programming, web design, computer games, surfing the net.

Jack and the



We seemed to be climbing from one cloud to another, as though we were Jack on the Beanstalk! Yes, we were in Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim, up at 14000 feet in the snowy world that connected urban Gangtok to the cold mountains ahead. And as our hired SUV swerved round the treacherous curves of the steep terrain, in a quiet corner of my mind's eye, I went through the happenings of the past two hours.

Our family of four, along with some co-passengers left in a car arranged by the travel agent. It had been sunny and bright in Kupup but as we neared Kyanglasha (also called Kyaongnosla), where we halted for 15 minutes to do some woollen shopping and hang out at a cafeteria, th weather changed abruptly. Furthe ahead, we saw little patches of dens snowflakes on the roadside, whic had transformed into 'fields of snow as we entered the busy, Changu Lak area.

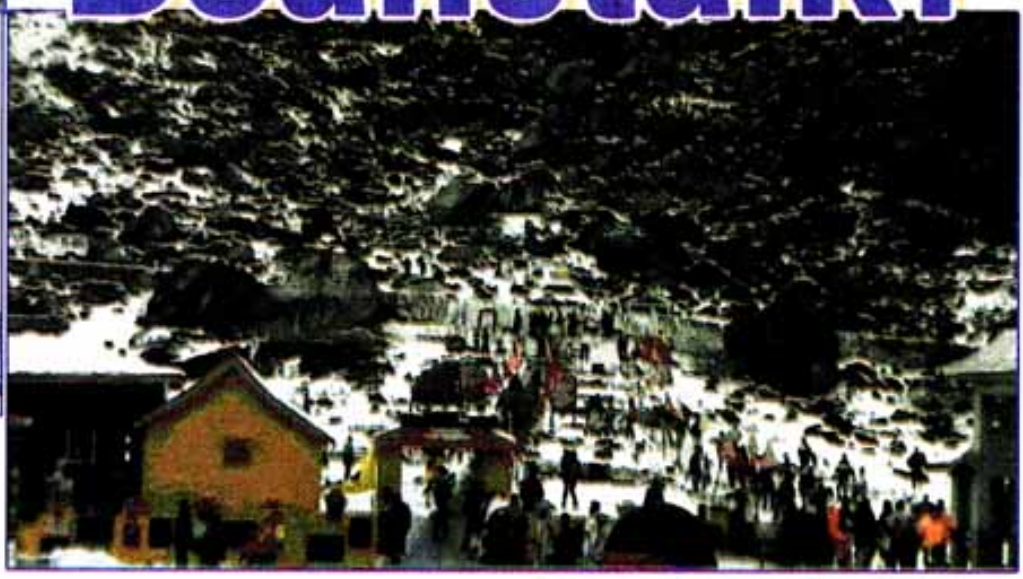
Rows and rows of cozy restau rants, where the Maggi - Tea Choumein tourism was at its thr ing best, provided the tourists wit gumboots and hard gloves for th still colder journey to Baba Manci

We spent some time around the stores selling souvenir and made friends with the yaks that roamed around lazily. We came to know that the Baba Mandir almost two kms away is dedicated to Baba Harbhajan Singh, who is a martyr of the Indian Army.

The temple was rather tiny, but what was really captivating was the chain of massive, gorgeous snowy white mountains. The 'wow-what scenery!' spirit was evident; it seemed to virtually trickle down into our souls. After fooling around in the snow and clicking some exquisite snaps of the picturesque landscape, we had a quick snack in the canteen and hurried back to our car lest the unexpected snowfall blocked our return. And then, there was again that walk in the vanilla clouds - but I just can't figure out where the 'beanstalk' fits in!

- Swasti Padhi, Std.X,
DAV JVM, Ranchi

Beanstalk?



Tchaikovsky

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was a famous Russian composer. He was born in 1840 to a mining engineer and his second wife. He was the elder brother of dramatist, librettist, and translator Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Tchaikovsky's house contained a piano and also an orchestrion (a machine that plays music and is designed to sound like an orchestra). He was addicted to the instrument and listened to it all the time. He was fond of music composed by the famous composer Mozart. Initially he wanted to attain perfection on the piano. He suffered from severe stage fright which he was forced to overcome later when he had to perform. "The Swan Lake" is one of Tchaikovsky's most loved and renowned compositions.

Swan Lake is the most popular ballet in the world. This 31 minute long ballet captures a wide range of human emotions - hope, despair, melancholy, ecstasy, terror and joy. Swan Lake remains a favourite among dancers, because it is one of the few classical ballets that is as challenging technically as it is emotionally. It is one of the most impressive and enduring classical ballets. You will be amazed to know on how many occasions you hear excerpts from this ballet without recognizing it. Surprised? The haunting sound track of Harry Potter is actually a part of this ballet!

- K.Akhila, Std.XI,
Vidya Mandir,
Chennai

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Colour Burst!

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Std.V,
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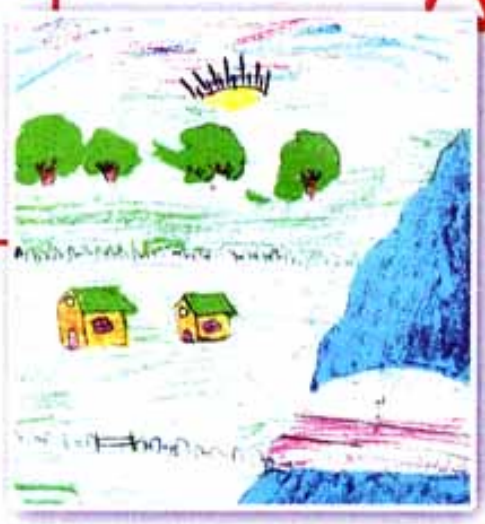

M.VARSHA,
Std.V,
Holy Angels MHSS,
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V.N.V.SAI ANUDEEP,
Std.V,
Hyderabad

Rani Iyer

• Ishbir Singh

We all have dreams. But, only a few of us reach our goals. Reaching dreams is really simple. We need to do just one thing to fulfill them: Work! In the age of computers and Internet, there are many inspiring stories of the young and some-what - old who followed their dreams.

Born in England, Karm Singh was a 25-year-old computer science graduate when he launched a web site called Desitouch.com. The site has music and video from South Asia with songs and video from Hindi films and Bhangra music. People can download songs and videos right into their ipods or computers for a price. The site is a favourite among many from the South Asian community around the world.

Karm Singh is a lot older than Divyank Turakhia who began his Internet consulting when he was 14 years old. In 2001, his company was the only company in India to get world recognition. Today, at 24, he is the co-founder and director of Directi Group, based in Bombay.

Others have taken different paths to become experts in a chosen area. In 1999, S. Chandrasekar was only ten years old when he became a Microsoft Certified Professional. Girija Waghmare of Nagpur was only ten years old when she became the world's youngest Microsoft Certified Professional in 2002. Her record stood until 2005 when she was overtaken by Arfa Karim Randhawa, from Faisalabad, Pakistan. Arfa became a Microsoft Certified Professional at the age of nine. But, Ishbir Singh [home page: http://www.ishbir.com/blog/] set a new benchmark in 2003, at the age of ten! He became the youngest Microsoft certified systems engineer!

What lessons can we learn from such enterprising youngsters?

- *Know the dreams and follow them!*

Age no Bar!

If we can't define our dreams in one sentence, then we haven't thought about them deeply.

- *Work hard and then some more!* There is no such thing as 'Is this enough?' when we follow our dreams. Only we know what our limits and goals are.
- *Be ready to learn!* Be prepared to learn, unlearn and relearn everything and learn quickly. Keep learning new things.
- *Explore the needs of people around you!* Internet and computers offer ways to help people around us. Raj Ridwan Singh is a social Entrepreneur: http://www.ysei.org/?q=node/46
- *Be open!* When we are open more opportunities come to us.

Think about this: lots of people in the world have no idea what they want to do. They do their work as a chore, a burden that is separate from their idea of fun or living. Only when we have dreams can we find a job that is fun. Go for it!

• Divyank Turakhia

A Leopard's Spots

How sad! How shall we find your home now?
Oooh!!! I want to see my mother, right now.
Don't cry. I will take you to her.
From the stripes on his body. I guess he's Bheru's son.
Hold tight, uncle will take you home.
Wow! Good uncle!
Uncle, Go fast.
How heavy he is! My back aches...
Oh, reached. Get down son.
Hayoo...! This is not my home. My home is on that mountain.
Why didn't you say so earlier?

Maybe he's Jikku's son. I heard that Jikku has a son of this age.
Son, is this the way up to your home?
No... No... No... this isn't.
I think we should take the way that goes through the mountain top.
My god!!!
Then-
Mr. Fox! Looks like my son is your best friend. Take care, he is very naughty.
Oh! Komu Leopard!
Hey, have you any doubt? The boy is returning from a fancy dress competition.
Uncle, How is my makeup?
What?!!!
Thank you uncle. Now you know a leopard CAN change its spots!
Naughty fellow... I shall... Oh... Oh...
© Jingle bell creation

Your Personal Pen Stand!

You will need :

Plaster of paris, a glass, A thick stick, water, paints, some patience!

Procedure :

Make a dough out of plaster of paris and water like mummy makes for roti. Flatten it with the stick. Keep it in a dry place for 15 minutes. Remove it and wrap it around the glass and with the rest of the paste, make a doll or a comic character or anything from your imagination. Now, firmly attach this model carefully on the glass model. Let it dry for two days without disturbing. Your model has to be carefully removed from the glass. This is your pen stand! Paint it with bright colours.

Precautions :

* Do this only on the floor or on your craft table.

* Always wash your hands after using plaster of paris.

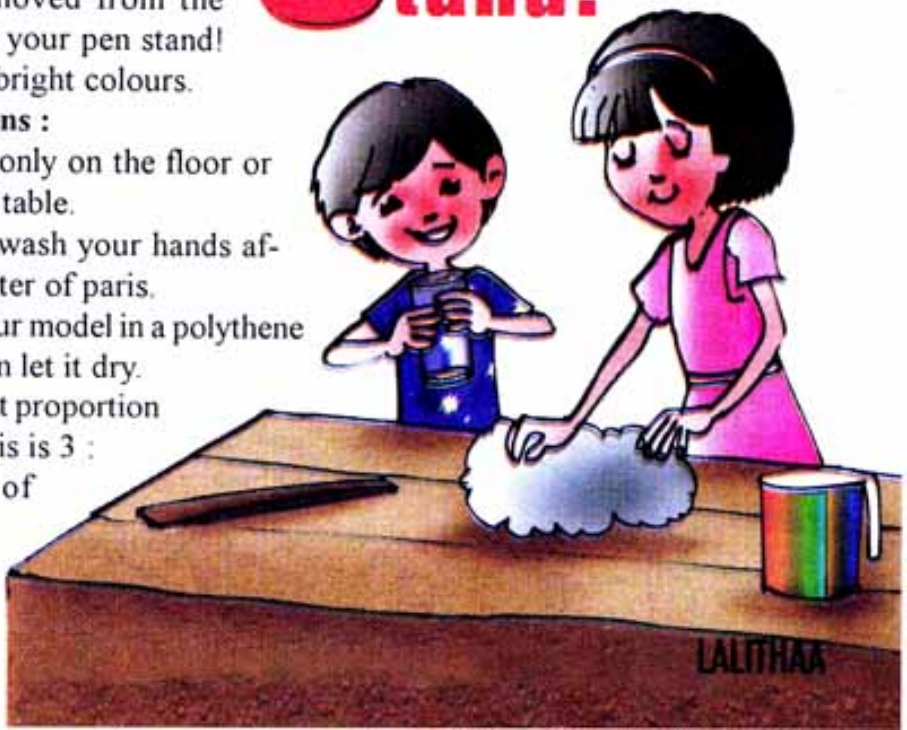
* Wrap your model in a polythene sheet and then let it dry.

* The exact proportion needed for this is 3 : 1 (3 cups of plaster of paris and 1 cup of water.)

* Add the water little by little and get the dough in right consistency.

* You get plaster of paris in any good stationary shop.

- Ananya Mishra, Std.IX, Triveni School, Secunderabad



DR.G.GANESAN

Why Should we Eat

• **V.Dharshini, Bengalooru**

? What causes ear infections in children? How serious are they? How can we prevent them?

! Ear infection is mostly caused by bacterial or viral infection in the middle ear. Sometimes it may be due to inflammation in the nasal passages caused by allergic rhinitis or upper respiratory infection. Recurrent ear infections in childhood may lead to hearing loss, behavioural and learning problems. The best way to prevent ear infection is to prevent cold and flu and treat them effectively when they do develop. We should keep our ears clean and maintain good hygiene.

• **K.Ranganath, Mysore**

? Is the consumption of sprouts beneficial to our body?

! Yes. Sprouts are rich in protein, fibre and vitamin C. They help in proper body growth and enhance our immunity. Since they contain fibre, they delay the gastric emptying (the time taken by the ingested food to pass further downwards from the stomach). Because of this effect, they maintain the blood sugar level within normal levels. Therefore sprouts are considered the best foods to control diabetes.

• **S. Kothai Sudharsana, Chennai**

? How is a kidney transplanted in a human being?

! Before transplantation, tissue matching tests are done for both the donor and the recipient. Then the transplantation procedure is followed. While the donor is unconscious and pain-free under general anesthesia, an incision is made in the side of the abdomen. The kidney is removed and the incision is closed. While the recipient is unconscious and pain-free under general anesthesia, an incision is made in

his lower abdomen. The kidney is removed and the donated kidney is stitched into place within the pelvis and the blood supply is restored in the new site. Then the incision is closed. Though this sounds simple, it is a complex and challenging procedure.

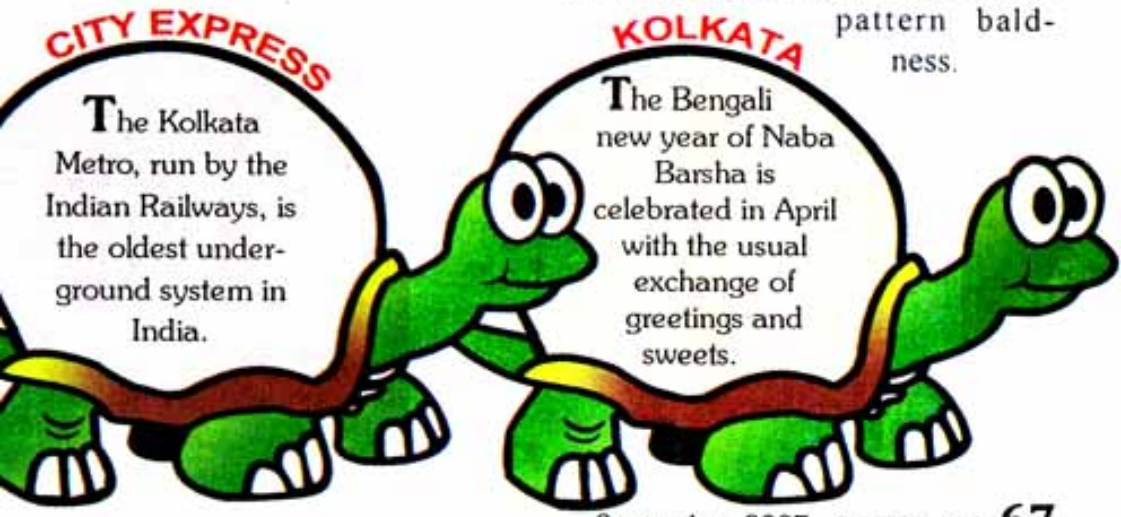
Sprouts?

- **R.Jason Giru bakaran, Madurai**

? My father is bald. I came to know that if the father is bald, this defect is passed on to their children too. Is it true, doctor? What is the treatment for baldness?

! Male pattern baldness is the most common type of hair loss in men. It is caused by hormones and heredity. This defect is usually passed on to children from their parent after the age of 40. So do not worry about it now.

Hair weaving or change of hairstyle may disguise the hair loss. This is usually the least expensive and safest approach for male baldness. Hair transplants consist of removing tiny plugs of hair from areas where the hair is continuing to grow and placing them in areas that are balding. This procedure usually requires multiple transplantation sessions and may be expensive. Results, however, are often excellent and permanent. There are two drugs available to treat male pattern baldness.



Gags!

1. Why did the little puppy cross the road?

2. What happens when a diamond is inserted into a glass of water?

3. What does the word "Psychochormatic phenjarecotonycle" mean?

4. What has a head but cannot think?

- A.V.S. Bhagyashree,
Xth Std,
St. Joseph's Public School,
Hyderabad - 500 060.

Teacher : What are the benefits of playing?

Harish : We don't have to study during that time.

Son : Mummy, our teacher lied to us.

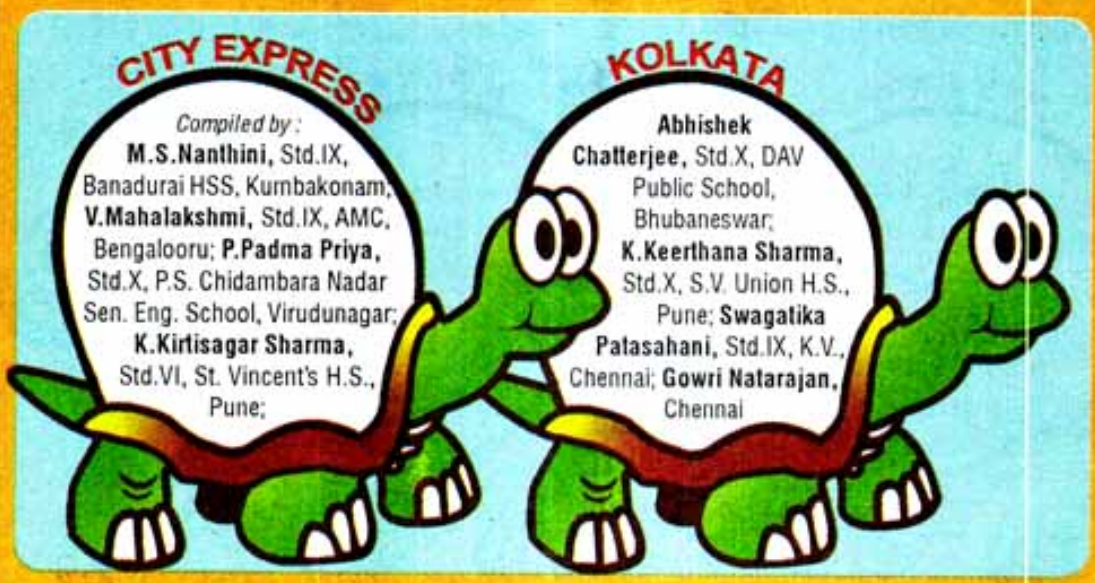
Mother : That can't be true!

Son : She always says we should help people who are in difficultly; but she never helped us during our examination today!

- A. Srishnath,
Std VIII,
Kendriya
Vidyalaya No. 1, Madurai - 2.

ANSWERS :

1. To go to the other side!
2. It gets wet!
3. It means nothing. It's meaningless!
4. A match stick



★ The ground for golf is called a link.

★ Glow-worms are light producing beetles. They can flash their lights in special rhythm to attract each other.

(Source : G.K. Book)

- P.Archanaa, Pune

★ The bird with the largest wing span is the albatross. A wing span is measured from the tip of one outstretched wing to the other.

★ A fly is a 'mopper'. It mops up wet food with its spongy mouth part. If the food is dry, it wets it before eating.

★ An angler fish lives at the bottom of the sea where it is very dark. So it carries a little glowing light on its body to attract prey.

★ The thinnest skin on our body is on the eyelids. The thickest is on the soles of our feet.

★ The rhino's horn and our nails are made of the same substance. The Indian rhino has one horn. The African rhino has two.

(Source : various science and G.K. books)

- Payal Prasad,
Std.VII,
National HS, Kolkata

★ A mosquito has forty-seven teeth!

★ Most people lose 40 percent of their ability to smell by the age of sixty!

★ Birds sing only during flight or while sitting on an object off the ground!

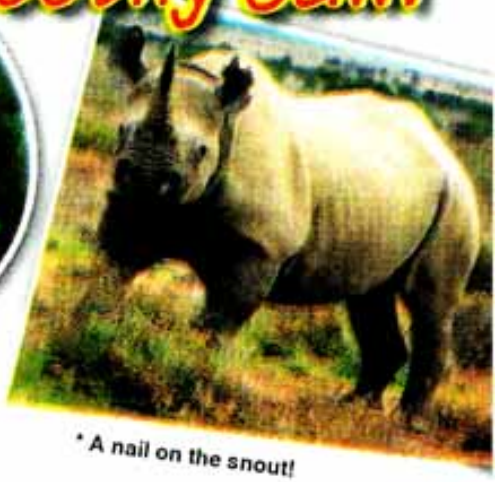
(Source : The book of 101 impressive answers)

- Aparna Nambiar,
Std.IX, Mysore

* smell the flowers while still young...

Spongy Mouth; Toothy Jaw!

* glowing in the dark



* A nail on the snout!

✉ I have been a reader of Gokulam for the past four months. It is a very useful magazine for children. Competitions like crossword help to improve my knowledge. I like grandmaworm, viewpoint and picture stories.

- L.V.Renukashri,
Std.VI,
Sri Vijay Vidhyalaya MHSS,
Krishnagiri

✉ The 'city express' feature is very useful for our school project work. Kindly, publish articles on countries like Mongolia, Peru, Chile, etc.

- S.Archana, Std.XI,
Kendriya Vidyalaya,
New Delhi - 22

✉ I like computer saga in Gokulam. It is useful.

- K.Kowsalya, Std.V,
New Prince MS,
Chennai - 88

✉ I am an old fan of Gokulam Tamil, and a new fan of Gokulam English. I like creative corner, colour burst... and poet's corner is really wonderful. I have read many magazines, but Gokulam is the best. Can I send a poem to poet's corner?

- S.Kanakasubbulaxmi,
Std.IX, GHSS,
Tirunelveli

Sure! You are most welcome to send your contributions. Good ones will be published. ***See page 24.***

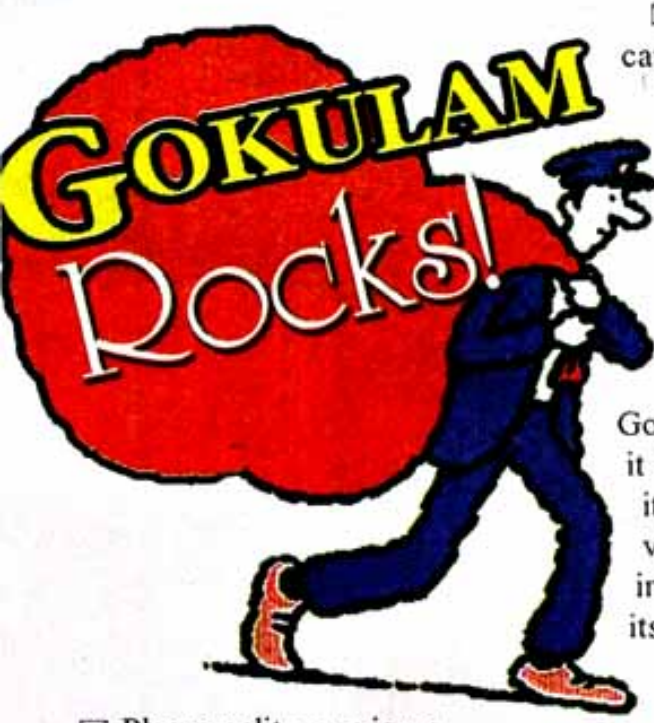
✉ I liked the JKR - HP conversations and do not deny they were way better than mine. Could you fulfill my request for information or posters on football players.

- V.R.Chittaranjan,
Oxford School,
Bengalooru

✉ A riddle published in the column 'pick your brains' in the July 2007 issue created two answers for a single question in my mind. The answer printed was mushroom. An-

other answer could be-chatroom!

- T.E.L.Kesav Reddy, Std.XI, Atomic Energy Central School, Ganjam, Orissa



✉ Please split your issue into Junior Gokulam and Senior Gokulam so that we college students can also contribute our articles and participate in competitions too.

- R.Nithya, Madurai

✉ I appreciate the Gokulam team for producing such a wonderful magazine. Gokulam rocks!

- R.Pavithra, Std.VI, Coimbatore

✉ I am a regular reader and an ardent fan of Gokulam. I just love all the cool info about Harry Potter.

- N.Sajida Sultana, Std.XII, Adarsh Vidyalaya, Chennai

✉ I love to read Gokulam because it gives me knowledge. There are so many things like puzzles and cartoon stories which are my favourites.

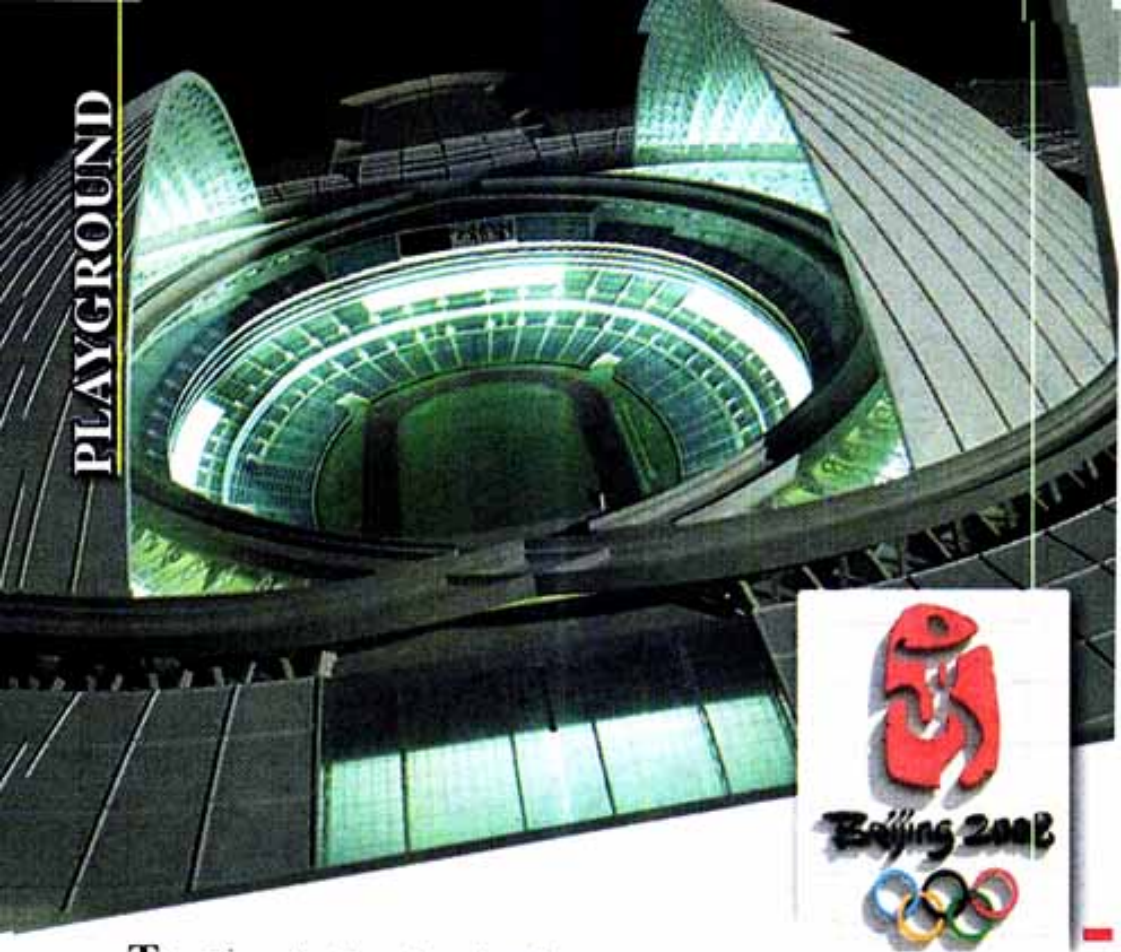
- Saanya Kosbe, Std.V, Nazareth Convent HS, Mumbai

✉ I am a new reader of Gokulam. I came to know about it from one of my friends. I like it very much. It has variety, provides a lot of knowledge and improves the language skills of its readers. A lot of content is sent from children from all parts of India. I too shall send my contributions to you.

- Priyanka Roy, Std.VII, AECS, Ganjam, Orissa

✉ I am 17 years old. Few years ago, I made many pen pals through Gokulam. But, since we shifted our residence from Delhi to Chennai, I lost touch with them. "I miss you, my friends - P.Bhavya, Dombivli; D.Devi, Bengalooru; Smrithi Suresh, Delhi; Deepthi, Avadi; Lavanya, Thirupathi; Aswathy Nair, Trivandrum. Hope you have not forgotten me!

- B.Poornima, Chennai



The Olympics fever has already started in Beijing. But, for the Tibetans, who want their tiny nation to be set free from the clutches of China, the Olympics doesn't mean anything. Chinese troops marched into Tibet in 1950. Since then, Tibet has been a part of China.

Thousands of Tibetans (refugees settled in India) marched through New Delhi, shouting slogans and waving flags, protesting China's actions in Tibet. "The essence of the Olympics is equality, but we do not have equality in Tibet," said Kalsang Godrukpa, president of the Tibetan Youth Congress, the main organiser of the rally!

AWARD FOR SHOOTING!

Manavjit Singh Sandhu has been chosen for the prestigeous Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for 2006. He is the second Indian to have won the world championship gold for trap shooting. Earlier this year, Manavjit won a bronze medal at the Melbourne Commonwealth Games. He also obtained two silvers at the Doha Asiad in December.

The happy news is that Manavjit is qualified for the 2008 Olympics.

IRAQ WINS

Iraq is relieved for a moment from the miseries of the U.S. occu-

pation. Yes, they have a truly happy moment to cherish and to celebrate. They have beaten Saudi Arabia 1-0 in the Asian Cup Soccer final.

The victory came as a surprise to many, especially the Iraq players, who collapsed on the ground in disbelief as the moment of victory arrived.

September 1. Meanwhile, Dutchman Herman Kruis became the first foreign coach of the Indian women's hockey team. Mr. Herman Kruis has been appointed for the forthcoming Asia Cup to be held in Hong Kong from September 1 to 9.

Anti Olympics!

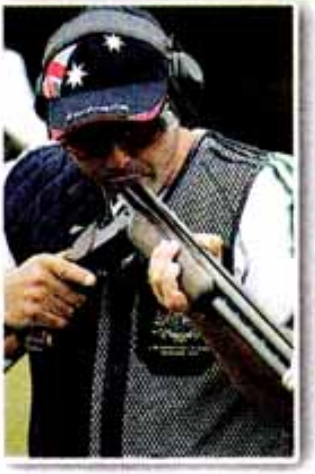
SANIA ON TOP

'Sania can easily break into top ten rankings!'

Guess who made this cheerful remark? None other than, Vijay Amritraj. 'However, Sania needs to fine tune her performance,' Vijay remarked.

The tail piece information is that Sania has already surpassed four players from the top 20 list.

- S.N.Kannan



* Manavjithsingh Sandhu

* Protesting Tibetans!

ASIA CUP NAMES

Midfielder Prabodh Tirkey has been named to lead the 18-member Indian team at the Asia Cup hockey tournament in Chennai starting on

As Busy as a Bee!

This happened on a Tuesday. At school we had lots to do. Teachers gave us a lot of home - work. At 4 'O clock in the evening, I came back home. I did my home-work as fast as I could, and the work was untidy. My family had to go for a friend's reception. I finished my home-work at five. We went to the reception at six but, had to come back at six-thirty because my sister took ill in the car. At 8 'O clock I suddenly remembered that I had to do my English project. I did it slowly and went to bed at ten. This was the 'busiest day of my life' and I never want such a busy day again when I'm as busy as a bee.

- M.C.S. Keerthi, Std.V, Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Tripunithura

The YES! Course!

The YES! Course (UTSAH 2007) which took place from 11th July to 15th July, in National College, Jayanagar, Bengalooru, was absolutely phenomenal!!! It rocked us to the core.

So, what exactly is this YES!? Well, the YES! is a powerful programme offered to students by the Art Of Living Foundation, which is an international non-governmental organization. All the five hundred students who participated in the course had a great time. These five days included a lot of interaction processes, lively games, fun, yoga, knowledge sessions, simple but effective breathing and concentration techniques including Sudarshan Kriya.

YES! gives a direction to youth to channelize their potential and do something constructive. We all can make a big difference to our lives as well as to the others'.

So, are you ready to say YES!?

- S.Smriti, Std.XII, Sri Sri Ravishankar Junior College, Bengalooru

The Birthday Presents!

Last year on my birthday, my brother and sister gave me a bulky present. I was very happy and very eager to know what was inside it. I started opening it. There was only layer after layer of covering paper! Finally there was a small toffee inside a box. My brother and sister started laughing. Then they gave me the real present that they had bought for me. I enjoyed my birthday and I was very happy.

- Tiju P.Thomas, Std.VI

(Please send complete details)

Email Users Beware!

I like making new friends and so recently when I received a mail from a person called Shreya asking me to be her friend, I replied. Soon we became good friends over the net and one day, she sent me a mail telling me that she had found a way of getting other people's email account passwords. I was very tempted by what she wrote, I followed the procedure that she gave me (I am not telling what the procedure is for the safety of other readers). The procedure included giving my password to a 'secret server'. I was easily fooled by the trap, and needless to say, I lost my email account. And what was worse, through my account, she sent mails to my other friends, abusing them. Due to this, I lost some very old friends. And further, she got hold of my private information and banned my usage of the internet. All this happened before 'Computer Saga' started appearing in Gokulam, and I did not know about the dangers of the internet. I hope other users don't get trapped like this.

- Nrithika Vijaykumar,
Std.X,
Vasant Vihar High School,
Chennai

On Mount Kailas in the Himalayas, deep in the icy caves lived the great god Shiva. He was married to Parvati the daughter of the Himalayas. However, Shiva was an austere yogi. He often left Parvati alone and disappeared into the woods to meditate. Parvati became lonely and tried to keep herself busy. "I wish I had a child to love, a child to play with" she whispered to the giant mountains.

"To play with" - the mountains echoed back. "I know!" said Parvati. "I will make a doll of clay". She went to lake Mansarovar, and used the clay from the lake bed to mould a doll.

Parvati bent low and gently blew life into the doll. It was immediately transformed into a beautiful little boy, with curly dark hair, dimpled

It is Festival Time Again!

Perhaps to remember the story of Ganesha's birth, it is our custom to make a clay idol of him and offer pooja to it on Ganesha Chaturthi every year. (This years it falls on 15th September.)

This festival kindles not only our devotion but also our creative skills. Infact, all festivals do so.

A lump of clay is shaped to form a podgy Ganesha, seeds from the coral tree form his eyes, a string of *erukkam* flowers plucked from a wayside bush, adorn his neck and the simple grass (arugu) makes a good enough

cheeks and shining eyes. Parvati's joy knew no bounds.

Many days went by and Shiva did not return. One morning Parvati said to her son. "I am going for a bath. Here, take this staff and stand guard at the door. Let no one enter without my permission. At this time, after many long days, Shiva arrived unannounced. "Stop!" commanded the boy, pointing the staff to him.

Shiva stopped in astonishment. my home."

Shiva tried to brush past the boy. But it didn't work! Enraged, Shiva ordered the ganas (his attendants) to kill the boy. The boy defeated the ganas! Then Shiva ordered Lord Brahma and Indra to carry on. The boy defeated both Brahma and Indra! Watching all this, Shiva really grew angry. This child

Birth of GANESHA!

Again Shiva moved to brush him aside. "Stop", said the boy again. "No one enters without my mother's permission!" Shiva laughed.

"Do you know who I am? Move out of my way, little monkey. This is

had created enough havoc. He had to be taught a lesson. So, Shiva said, "I will deal with this boy myself". he took his trishool and cut off the boy's head! When Parvati returned from her bath, she was horrified and

offering too.

While the festoons and the little umbrella placed behind the idol are worked by skilled hands, the food that is offered to him on that day (ofcourse meant for us to feast on later) is a display of culinary talent.

Rice flour kolams bordered with meroon clay paste and colourful rangolis decorate the floor. These traditional motifs are born of adept hand-mind co-ordination and a vivid imagination.

The Ganesha Chathurthi is only the beginning of a long line of Indian festivals. Let us enjoy the festive season and also give some time to the creative part of the celebrations.

- Shambhavi

Cover Design : **Pillai**

Long Live Potter Mania!

Most of you are hopping mad at Gokulam for posing last month's question about your favourite character! Your responses have been overwhelmingly in favour of the H.P. craze and many of you have stated your reasons with indignation and a never-before firmness!

Long live your Potter Mania!

Here's a competition on Deathly Hallows :

Which chapter of the book is the best? and why do you think so...? Write out within 200 words and send to

Gokulam H.P. Competition
47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road,
Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

Last date for entries : **September 20.**

The best three entries will be published and win prizes. Editor's decision will be final.

distressed. Shiva realised his folly and commanded his ganas to get the head of whichever animal passed by them first.

They came back with an elephant's head. The gods in the heavens uttered sacred chants while Parvati and Shiva blew life into the child again. The boy sat up. Parvati hugged her child and wept with joy. "My child", said Shiva as he gathered the little elephant headed boy into his arms. He added, "I make you the leader of my ganas and your name shall be Ganesha. All men shall henceforth first pay obeisance to you before they worship me."

Ganesha bowed low as he received his father's blessings, and the gods in the heavens sang their praise. Thus it was that Ganesha was given the prime place among the pantheon of Gods.

(Source : Book of Mythology)

- S.Suchitra, Std.IX, Carmel Convent High School, Bengalooru

An Elephant's Loyalty!

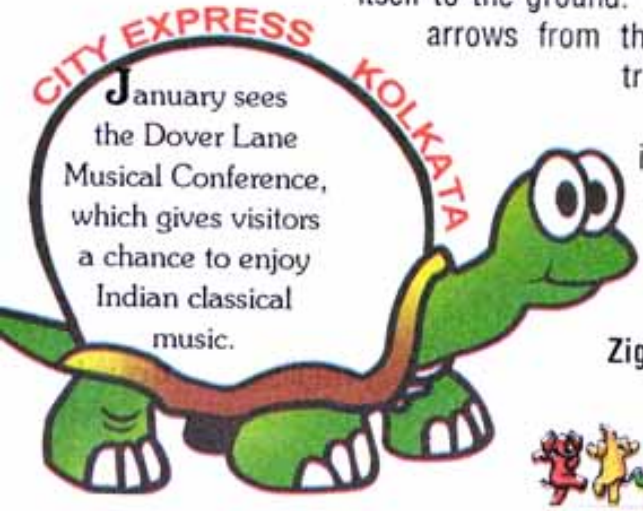
Many years ago, Alexander, the king of Macedonia, invaded India. Once he was opposed by the huge army of king Porus.

Porus was six feet tall and rode on the largest elephant. The elephant bestowed the greatest care on its royal master. It defended him against his enemy. It repulsed the enemy attacks time and again.

Porus was severely wounded by the arrows. He was about to faint. Seeing that the royal master might fall off its back, the elephant lowered itself to the ground. Then it gently extracted the arrows from the body of Porus with its trunk.

The elephant was loyal to its last breath. Its valour and faithfulness deserve to be written about in letters of gold.

- D.Logeshwari, Std.VII, Zigma Matriculation School, Chennai



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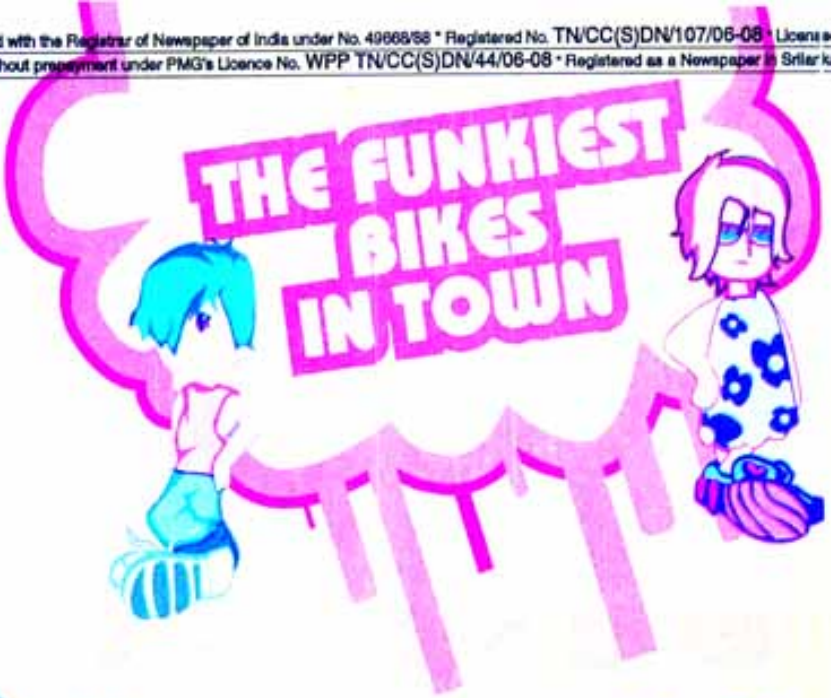

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